

# **The Origin of the One Big Union**

*CA Verbatim Report of the  
Calgary Conference  
1919*

---

PRICE: TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

---

*Published by the*  
**One Big Union**  
WINNIPEG,  
Canada

RBR  
HD  
8102  
054  
05

## A PAPER With a Different Point of View

On August 12th, 1919, the *O.B.U. Bulletin* made its debut. It was a small four-page paper—scarcely in proportion to the size the parent organization had already assumed—nevertheless it was a brilliant start to the organization's literary and written propaganda efforts.

During the eight years that have passed the *Bulletin* has grown in size until today its volume is almost four times as great. Its scope has also increased: it now is read in the four corners of the world. Students and keen observers in the labor movement the world over never miss a single issue. As a labor newspaper it ranks high, and all of the *Bulletin's* contributors are specialists in their particular line. Altogether, it is a 100% working class journal.

If you are not a reader of the *Bulletin*, naturally, you will want to become one.

All that is necessary is to send in your subscription; we will see you get the paper regularly.

### SUBSCRIPTION RATES:

\$2.00 per year; U.S. and foreign, \$2.50

Send all remittances to  
BUSINESS MANAGER

# O.B.U. BULLETIN

54 ADELAIDE ST.

WINNIPEG, MAN.

# The Origin of the One Big Union

*CA verbatim report of the Calgary  
Conference, 1919*



PRICE: TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

*Reduced Prices on Quantities*

*Prices on Application*

---

---

**Published by the One Big Union**

WINNIPEG, CANADA

62817

# INTRODUCTION

So much arrant nonsense has been disseminated as information the past seven years concerning the O.B.U. movement in Canada, during which time a new generation of young workers has come upon the scene, that it becomes imperative at this time that a short history be published outlining the origin and historical setting of the movement.

In the year 1911, the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada met in Calgary and, despite the vigorous opposition of the Secretary, P. M. Draper, the Congress endorsed by resolution the principle of industrial organization, to supersede the craft form.

In the same year the first convention of the B.C. Federation of Labor (affiliated with the Trades and Labor Congress), at their convention in Victoria, B.C., also passed a resolution endorsing the principle of industrial unionism; and similar resolutions were put and carried at all succeeding conventions of that body until 1918.

All this shows that for many years a growing appreciation existed in the rank and file, of the necessity for some extension of the narrow structure of unionism, as expressed in the A. F. of L.

The war conditions, with the vast speeding up of industry and the dilution of labor—destruction of the alleged skill possessed by some workers—brought this point out very vividly. As far as Western Canada was concerned it was felt in 1918, that some steps must be taken to lift trade unionism out of the swamp of reaction and inaction into which it had fallen. It was more or less clearly understood that as industrial conditions and relations underwent rapid changes, the workers' organizations must also change their form and character to suit the new needs and requirements necessarily arising out of these rapidly changing relationships.

Consequently, many representatives of the labor movement in Western Canada went to the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada (1918), held in Quebec City, in the high hope that Congress would recognize at

least some of these vast industrial changes and attempt to cope with them. But disappointment was the lot of these Western delegates, for, far from receiving a sympathetic hearing, they were ruthlessly denied any kind of hearing at all on these important questions. Resolutions which had been carefully prepared and vigorously discussed by local unions and handed to their delegates as instructions, were swept aside in the Congress by the autocratic broom of officialdom, tied to the Gomperian machine and blinded by huge banks of governmental fog. So drastic and overbearing were the measures and attitude taken by Congress officials that the whole of the Western delegates held a caucus. This was in September, 1918.

The caucus decided then and there to call a convention of all trade union bodies for some time early in the next year to decide upon a line of action and future policy of Western Canadian Labor. At that time the thoughts of these delegates took them no further than the possibility of holding a Western Conference prior to the next Congress (1919), deciding upon the new policy and then submitting, as vigorously as they could, such policy to Congress. Thus did the elected mouthpieces of the Western Labor movement think at that time.

The rank and file had also been watching and thinking and had decided that some steps must be taken to disentangle them from the government-owned and corporation-ruled reactionary Congress of the A. F. of L.

In the meantime a convention of railroad shopmen was held (comprising all workers of all railroad shops of Canada) and here the new note was again struck. This was in December of 1918. At this convention, covering organizations from the East as well as from the West, the question of then and there forming an industrial organization of all railroad shopmen in Canada was defeated only by a majority of two.

But conditions were changing rapidly and organized workers everywhere, particularly in the West, began to recognize the importance of

doing something in order to prepare for the inevitable post-bellum conditions. The war had ceased and the labor market gave unmistakable signs of declining. The call for the Western Conference had been sent. The rank and file, more especially the awakened and aggressive portion, sensed the need of something to deal with the problem confronting them, sent delegates to the convention, and sent also with those delegates instructions to do what they required them to do. Herein can be demonstrated the gross untruthfulness of those who state that the work of the Calgary Conference was the work of a few hair-brained fanatics who used the movement to further their own personal views and ends. First, we will trace the work of the B.C. Federation of Labor, after which we can deal with the Western Conference.

#### **The Extreme West Moves First**

When the secretary of the temporary committee, elected by the Western caucus of the Trades and Labor Congress, 1918, sent out the call for a convention to all trades and labor councils, labor unions, etc., entitled to sit at any such convention, to be held early in the year of 1919 at Calgary, the executive committee of the British Columbia Federation of Labor, in order to prevent unnecessary expense to organized labor's ranks, postponed the annual convention of that body, scheduled to be held at Victoria in January and carried the convention to Calgary (a point outside the Province), so that trades and labor councils, labor unions, etc., entitled to send delegates to the B.C. Federation of Labor Convention, could also, if they desired, credential the same delegates for the Western Conference.

The B.C. Federation of Labor Convention was held immediately prior to the Western Conference. From the opening of the proceedings it could clearly be observed that no mere pious resolutions built of high-sounding phrases, without any real connections with working class life, alone should be discussed and passed. A resolution was placed before the convention, in the early stages, calling for a complete change in the policy of the Federation, asking that the various resolutions, piled one on the

other throughout the preceding years, should be made living principles and not allowed to stand as ornamental, but dead, letters.

The utter futility of sending executive officers over to legislative houses to have a half-hour's "tete-a-tete" once a year with politicians, who are not interested in working class problems, was generally agreed upon, and the "policy" resolution, already referred to, asking that this sweet romancing be done away with and an effort be made to build up the strength of the workers in their various trade unions, was, after being thoroughly discussed, passed with only one dissentient. (There were 87 duly credentialed delegates seated in this convention.)

It would be a waste of time to deal singly with all the resolutions presented from various points: Prince Rupert; Victoria; Vancouver; Fernie; the mining centres of the metalliferous mining country, and from many different unions in all these centres, asking that the Federation come to life and function on behalf of the affiliated membership or else give up the ghost—and demanding that an industrial form of organization be constructed as soon as circumstances would permit; but in this connection it might be interesting to mention the fact that the Vancouver Metal Trades Council forwarded a letter to the convention, stating that, by resolution, the secretary of that body was instructed to inform the convention that the Vancouver Metal Trades Council desired immediately an industrial form of organization. That the officers of this latter organization have since proved their utter inaptitude and revealed their traitorous character by their actions, does not detract from the position originally taken.

The committee on resolutions, being faced with the question of reporting on a vast number of resolutions all asking for industrial organization, yet each stressing some particular aspect, was compelled to bring a substitute motion covering all the salient points dealt with. The substitute motion was as follows:

**"RESOLVED: THAT THIS CONVENTION RECOMMEND TO ITS AFFILIATED MEMBERSHIP THAT**

THEY SEVER AFFILIATION WITH THEIR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION, AND THAT STEPS BE TAKEN TO FORM AN INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATION OF ALL WORKERS;

"AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT A CIRCULAR OUTLINING A PROPOSED PLAN OF ORGANIZATION BE SENT TO THE VARIOUS ORGANIZATIONS AND THAT A REFERENDUM ON THE QUESTION BE TAKEN AT THE SAME TIME."

This resolution was thrashed back and forth across the floor of the convention, and finally carried by a large majority. It was further decided to introduce this question as a resolution from the B.C. Federation of Labor on the floor of the Western Conference, about to convene, and see what the delegates of the labor organizations of the other Western provinces thought about it. It was further decided to go ahead with the new policy in British Columbia, at least as far as a well-conducted propaganda campaign was concerned, and with the actual movement itself, if circumstances warranted it, irrespective of the attitude of the other Western province.

The new labor policy was very

warmly debated upon the B.C. Federation of Labor's convention floor, and a little opposition was staged by certain reactionaries who would have surprised everybody had they acted otherwise. International organizers also appeared with their customary tactical manoeuvres, but all this was brushed aside by the overwhelming nature of the vote of the representatives of the various affiliated bodies.

It was inevitable, therefore, that the Calgary Conference went the way it did; it was a reflection of the thought of organized labor throughout the West.

The story of labor in Eastern Canada during the period just outlined has never been told—that is a task that few are competent to complete, yet when it is told—and it will be—the full significance of the Western Conference will be seen.

But for the present, to dispel the fog and confusion that surrounds the Western Conference, as well as to nail as false once and for all the deceitful lying and the wilful misrepresentation that has gone on since this Conference made history, is the purpose of reprinting the verbatim report.—General Executive Board of the One Big Union.







# The Origin of the O.B.U.

## VERBATIM REPORT OF CALGARY LABOR CONFERENCE

### First Day

R. J. Tallon, President Calgary Trades and Labor Council, and delegate representing Division No. 2 Machinists' Union, opened the first Western Canada Labor Conference, and extended cordial greetings to all wage workers throughout Western Canada and a hearty welcome to the delegates assembled.

David Rees, international organizer, United Mine Workers of America, Vancouver, B.C., delivered an address reviewing occurrences which led up to the inauguration of the present assemblage.

The temporary chairman appointed the following delegates to act as Credential Committee: W. Smitten, Calgary (convenor); W. H. C. Logan, Winnipeg; J. R. Pattison, Fort William; A. S. Wells, Vancouver; F. Cropper, Moose Jaw.

Moved and seconded that the committee stand as named.—Carried.

(The Credential Committee returned their initial report in due course, announcing there were 234 credentials accepted as accredited delegates to the Western Canada Labor Conference. On regular motion the report of the Credential Committee was received and recorded. The report of the Credential Committee tabulated on the next following page and succeeding pages, however, is the completed report of the committee, embodying all supplementary reports which were presented at subsequent session of the conference.)

### LIST OF DELEGATES

#### Manitoba—Winnipeg

Blacksmiths: S. Johnson.  
Boilermakers' Local No. 566: J. Morton.

Boilermakers: J. Cunningham, H. Lister, W. H. Aldridge, W. Holly, W. Warer.

Bricklayers and Masons: W. H. Lovatt.

Carpenters' Local 343: T. A. Bratton, G. Armstrong.

Carpenters: G. Barlow, J. Fisher.

Electrical Workers: Small.

Garment Workers: H. Galler.

Lithographers: F. G. Leathorne.

Machinists' Local 122: G. P. Smith, W. A. King.

Machinists Local 189: W. C. Thompson, D. Sinclair, W. H. C. Logan.

Machinists' Helpers: H. Lane.

Maintenance-of-Way: J. J. Henry.

Moulders: J. R. Adair.

Moving Picture Operators: P. Wishart.

Painters: E. O. Barnes.

Plasterers: W. Miller.

Printing Press: H. H. Roberts.

Plumbers and Steam Fitters: W. Seal.

Railway Carmen: S. Cartwright, J. Foster, J. Robinson, G. Turner, S. Dunnett, J. Gibb, F. J. Baker.

Railway Clerks and Freight Handlers: T. Wright, A. H. Morse.

Railway Employees: J. W. Watson.

Sheet Metal Workers: H. Davis.

Steam and Operating Engineers: J. Robertson, A. Haynes, C. Strutt.

Street Railwaymen Local 99: T. H. Dunn, A. Scoble.

Teamsters' Local 119: D. McLean.

Trades and Labor Council: R. B. Russell, R. J. Johns.

Women's Labor League: Mrs. Armstrong, Mrs. Logan.

#### Brandon

Trades and Labor Council: T. Hanwell.

### **Transcona**

Blacksmiths: W. Allen.  
Machinists' Local 484: C. W. Foster, W. R. Foster.  
Trades and Labor Council: D. R. Duncan.

### **Ontario—Fort William**

Trades and Labor Council: J. R. Pattison.

### **Port Arthur**

Trades and Labor Council: J. Harris.

### **Saskatchewan—Moose Jaw**

Civic Employees: W. Munroe.  
Machinists: W. A. Watson.  
Machinists' Helpers: W. King.  
Railway Carmen: F. Cropper.  
Trades and Labor Council: W. H. Ward, J. Sommerville.

### **Regina**

Bricklayers and Masons' Local 1: J. Sambrook.  
Carpenters' Local 1867: G. Sturdy.  
Trades and Labor Council: R. Hestline, W. Walker.

### **Saskatoon**

Carpenters: A. V. Lancaster.  
Plumbers and Steamfitters' Local 264: M. J. Nicholson.  
Railroad Trainmen: J. Wedge.  
Railway Carmen: J. McMurtry.  
Stage Employees: H. C. Lowther.  
Street Railwaymen: I. J. Dibble.  
Trades and Labor Council: W. Mills.

### **Alberta—Airdrie**

Maintenance-of-Way: E. Gamon.

### **Blairmore**

Fire Bosses' Association: T. Thompson.

### **Calgary**

Alberta Federation of Labor: F. White, W. Smitten.  
Blacksmiths' Helpers: J. Barnicutt.  
Boilermakers: W. Day.  
Brewery Workers' Local 124: J. Barr.  
Bricklayers and Masons' Local 2: W. Reed.  
Carpenters: W. Scott.  
Carpenters, Amalgamated: T. Vickers.  
City Hall Staff: Robbins.  
City Hall Staff Local 88: O. Robinson.  
Civic Employees' Local 37: D. McGrath.  
Civic Employees: E. H. Knight.

Electrical Workers: J. W. Frame, E. D. Quinn.

S. and O. Engineers: H. M. Bishop.  
Federal Workers' Local 48: W. McQuoid.

Firefighters' Local 19: K. H. Poulton.

Hotel and Restaurant Employees: O. G. Stevenson.

Machinists' Division No. 2: R. J. Tallon.

Machinists' Local 357: J. Russell, T. B. Riley.

Machinists' Helpers 877: G. A. Tullock.

Maintenance-of-Way Employees: L. Wade.

Moulders: R. Luke.

Moving Picture Operators: J. L. Arron.

Musicians: E. S. Harris.

Rail Carmen: J. Marshall, W. Little.

Painters: H. Haywood.

Plumbers and Steamfitters: G. Fitzgerald.

Postal Employees: Geo. Boothman.

Postal Workers: H. L. Cheney, A. M. Venables.

Postal Workers' Amalgamation: P. Currie.

Railway Clerks: W. Mott.

Sheet Metal Workers: Thos. Rodie.

Stage Employees: K. S. Davidson.

Steam Shovel and Dredge Men: A. Robertson.

Street Railway Employees: E. L. Howell.

Teamsters' Local 528: G. H. Scott, W. Moffat.

Trades and Labor Council: J. S. Hooley, A. G. Broatch.

Typographical Ladies' Association: Mrs. G. L. Corse.

Typographical Union Local 449: J. L. Tobin.

### **Edmonton**

Carpenters' Local 1325: J. R. Knight.

Civic Employees' Local 30: W. H. Noakes.

Civil Service: A. A. Campbell, J. J. McCormack.

Federal Labor Union Local 49: C. E. Berg.

Fire Fighters: T. Steele.

Machinists: E. T. Thompson.

Musicians: B. Allan.

Pressmen 255: E. E. Roper.

Street Railwaymen: K. Montgomery.

Trades and Labor Council: A. Far-  
milo.

Typographical Union: D. K. Knott.

#### **Lethbridge**

Civic Employees' Local 70: A. J.  
Ingram.

Trades and Labor Council: W.  
Hawkins, D. McNabb.

#### **Medicine Hat**

Civic Employees: F. Price.

Trades and Labor Council: B. W.  
Bellamy.

Typographical Union: F. Mat-  
thews.

#### **Redcliffe**

Iron and Steel Workers: F. Porter.

#### **United Mine Workers**

Bellevue: J. Brooks.

Bankhead: M. Novak.

Blairmore: F. Palm, T. Hubes.

Brule: W. Kolling, M. Stigler.

Cadomin: J. Matholland.

Canmore: N. D. Thachuk.

Cardiff: G. Bruce.

Coalhurst: B. Spencer, F. Scal-  
tritti.

Carbindale: J. Atkinson.

Coleman: W. H. Haysom.

District Office: A. McFagan, Ed.  
Browne.

Drumheller: T. P. Thompson, S.  
Marzoli, O. Sullivan.

Edmonton: A. Benson.

Evansburgh: W. J. Keen.

Hillcrest: D. A. Grant, J. Stubbs,  
B. Carter.

Lethbridge: C. Peacock.

Oliphant: J. Armand.

Pocahontas: LeRoy Taylor.

Regal Collieries: G. H. Davis.

Rosedale: H. Smith.

Taber: A. McRoberts.

Wayne: A. Cacchioni.

#### **British Columbia—New Westminster**

Shipyard Laborers: G. D. McMur-  
phy.

Street and Electric Railway Em-  
ployees: F. I. Ray, A. Wallace.

Trades and Labor Council: W.  
Yates.

#### **Port Coquitlam**

Carpenters' Local 2061: Herbert  
Powell.

#### **Powell River**

Pulp and Sulphite and Paper Mill  
Workers: J. Field, W. E. Thompson.

#### **Prince Rupert**

Fish Packers' Union: Geo. Casey.

Trades and Labor Council: Mont-  
gomery, S. McDonald.

#### **Vancouver**

Boilermakers: J. A. Moore, J.  
Wood, J. Fraser, T. Grogan.

Bridge and Structural Iron Work-  
ers: Roy Massacar.

Carpenters' Local 617: R. Hatley,  
J. R. Campbell.

Carpenters' Local 2647: R. Sinclair,  
A. S. Wells.

Carpenters' Local 1777: Arthur  
Steadman.

Civic Employees: G. W. McFar-  
lane.

Electrical Workers: E. H. Morri-  
son, D. W. McDougall, W. J. Mur-  
dock, J. P. Scott.

Hotel and Restaurant Employees:  
Harry Wood.

B. C. Loggers' Union: T. Mace,  
A. McKenzie, H. Allman.

Longshoremen: A. Hill, G. Hodg-  
son.

Machinists' Local 182: J. H. Mc-  
Vety.

Machinists' Local 777: G Douglas,  
P. McDonnell.

Marine Firemen and Oilers: Thos.  
Scott.

Meat Cutters: Thos. Anderson.

Pattern Makers: C. Heys.

Plumbers: J. W. Kirkpatrick.

Painters and Decorators: H. Grand.

Railway Carmen: T. Sommerville.

Shipyard Laborers: John Sully,  
Welsh Lee, D. Paterson.

Shipwrights: J. W. Wilkinson, J.  
Nixon.

Steam and Operating Engineers:  
A. Alexander, W. Head, W. Ainger.

Street and Electrical Railway Em-  
ployees: W. H. Cottrell, J. Hubble,

A. V. Lofting, G. Kermod.

Teamsters and Chauffeurs: G.  
Grant, T. J. Haslett, V. R. Midgley,  
J. F. Poole.

Trades and Labor Council: J. Kav-  
anagh, W. A. Pritchard.

Typographical Union: W. R. Trot-  
ter.

Warehousemen: J. Shaw.

#### **Victoria**

Blacksmiths: S. T. Mitchell.

Boilermakers: A. Chisholm.

Carpenters, 2651: E. W. Ellis, J.  
Stevenson.

Longshoremen: Jos. Taylor.

Machinists' Local 456: J. Renfrew.  
Painters and Decorators: W. Moulton.

Shipyard Laborers: Geo. Schofield,  
H. C. Engleson, J. Bardsley, A. Bell,  
J. B. Bradstock, W. C. Flewin.

Shipwrights: C. H. Gardiner, A. Watchman.

Steam and Operating Engineers: J. Woodriff.

Trades and Labor Council: G. Laundry.

#### United Mine Workers

Cumberland: Jos. Naylor.

Fernie: W. B. Phillips.

Michel: H. Beard.

Nanaimo: David Rees.

South Wellington: James Bateman.

#### Metalliferous Miners

Kimberley: F. T. Bidden, A. Gill.

Silverton: T. B. Roberts.

The temporary secretary read the following rules of order.

#### Rules of Order

1. Recommended that the hours of session be from 8 to 12 a.m. and from 2 to 5 p.m. daily.

2. That Robertson's Rules of Order be the guiding authority to the conference.

3. That movers of resolutions be allowed ten minutes during the discussion, and other speakers to the motion five minutes.

4. That all resolutions must be introduced not later than conclusion of first day session, except by consent of the convention.

Moved and seconded the adoption.—Carried.

Del. Seal (Winnipeg), moved (seconded) that smoking be discontinued.—Lost.

The temporary secretary announced the personnel of the Resolution Committee: J. Kavanagh, convenor.

Moved and seconded the committee stand as named.—Carried.

The temporary secretary announced the personnel of the Ways and Means Committee: J. Miller, Winnipeg, convenor; Bro. King, Moose Jaw; Bro. Farmilo, Edmonton; Bro. Trotter, Vancouver.

Moved and seconded the committee stand as named.—Carried.

#### Communications

The temporary secretary read tele-

gram received from Tom Moore. Moved and seconded that same be referred to Resolutions Committee.

Communication from E. Roper, Edmonton.

Communication from Calgary Trades and Labor Council inviting the delegates to attend a whist drive and dance. Moved and seconded that same be accepted with thanks.—Carried.

Resolutions read by temporary secretary and turned over to the Resolutions Committee.

Del. Taylor (Vancouver) moved (seconded) that when we adjourn we re-convene at 3 o'clock.—Carried.

Moved and seconded that rules be suspended to elect president and secretary for the conference.—Carried.

Bro. R. J. Tallon, President Calgary Trades and Labor Council, was elected to act as president of the conference, by acclamation.

Bro. V. R. Midgley, Vancouver, B.C., was elected to act as secretary to the conference, by acclamation.

Adjournment.

#### Afternoon Session—(3 p.m.)

President R. J. Tallon, chairman.

Supplementary report of Credential Committee adopted as read.

Del. Knight (Edmonton) moved (seconded) that Bro. Lawson, editor Fernie District Ledger, be given seat in conference without vote.—Carried.

Del. Farmilo (Edmonton) moved (seconded) that visitors to the conference be requested to take seats in the gallery.—Carried.

Secretary Midgley read resolutions that had been handed in subsequent to morning session, and same were directed to the committee on resolutions.

Moved and seconded that Mr. Perry of Fernie be telegraphed to come and act as stenographer to the conference, reporting the proceedings verbatim.—Carried.

#### Report of Resolution Committee

Del. J. Kavanagh, chairman.

Resolution No. 1 (Submitted by Resolution Committee)—Realizing that the aims and objects of the labor movement should be the improving of the social and economic condition of society in general, and the working class in particular;

And whereas the present system of production of profit and the institu-

tions resulting therefrom, prevent this being achieved,

Be it resolved that the aims of labor as represented by this convention are the abolition of the present system of production for profit, and the substituting therefor, production for use, and that a system of propaganda to this end be carried on.

Del. Kavanagh moved (seconded by Del. Pritchard) the adoption of the recommendation of the committee, which was concurrence in the foregoing resolution No. 1.—Unanimously carried.

Resolution No. 2 (Submitted by W. A. Pritchard of Vancouver Trades and Labor Council)—Whereas great and drastic changes have taken place in the industrial world;

And whereas in the past the policy of the organized centres of this country in sending their provincial and Dominion executives to the legislative assemblies pleading for the passage of legislation which is rarely passed, and which would be futile if it were, is now obsolete;

Therefore, be it resolved that this conference of western workers lay down as its policy the building up of organizations of workers on industrial lines for the purpose of enforcing, by virtue of their industrial strength, such demands as such organizations may at any time consider necessary for their continued maintenance and well being, and shall not be as heretofore the sending of executive officers to plead before legislatures for the passing of legal palliatives which do not palliate.

The resolution committee offered the following as a substitute for Resolution No. 2:

Whereas great and far-reaching changes have taken place during the last year in the realms of industry;

And whereas we have discovered through painful experiences the utter futility of separate action on the part of the workers, organized merely along craft lines, such action tending to strengthen the relative position of the master class;

Therefore be it resolved that this Western Labor Conference place itself on record as favoring the immediate reorganization of the workers along industrial lines, so that by virtue of their industrial strength, the workers may be better prepared to

enforce any demand they consider essential to their maintenance and well-being;

And be it further resolved that in view of the foregoing, we place ourselves also on record as being opposed to the innocuity of labor leaders lobbying parliament for palliatives which do not palliate.

Del. Kavanagh moved (seconded by Del. Pritchard), the adoption of the recommendation of the committee.—Unanimously carried.

Resolution No. 3 (Submitted by the B. C. Federation of Labor)—Resolved that this convention recommend to its affiliated membership the severance of their affiliation with their international organizations, and that steps be taken to form an industrial organization of all workers;

And be it further resolved that a circular letter outlining a proposed place of organization be sent out to the various organizations and that a referendum on the question be taken at the same time.

Recommendation of committee — Concurrence.

Del. Kavanagh moved (seconded by Del. C. W. Foster), the adoption of the recommendation.

Del. Rees, under special privilege, brought to the attention of the conference the presence of a man masquerading under the aliases of Brown and Smith, whose real name is Gosden, and who, in speaker's opinion, was a police spy and stool pigeon. He warned the delegates, therefore, to be guarded as to their statements.

Del. Stevenson moved (seconded by Del. Taylor), that man be requested to leave the hall.—Lost.

No. 3 was resumed.

Del. Allman moved (seconded by Del. Logan), that question be submitted to entire Canadian membership, the ballots and returns to be segregated at Port Arthur as dividing line between east and west.—Carried.

Recommendation of committee as amended carried.

The chairman appointed the following committee on policy: Hooley, Calgary; Johns, Winnipeg; Cotterill, Vancouver; Chisholm, Victoria; Watson, Moose Jaw; Benson, Edmonton; Landbrook, Regina; Lovatt, Winnipeg.

Appointment of committee on policy endorsed and then followed adjournment until 9 a.m. March 14, 1919.

#### Second Day—Morning Session

President R. J. Tallon called the conference to order at 9.10 a.m.

By the chairman — The Brothers will kindly come to order, and as was decided yesterday, the visitors will retire to the balcony.

By the chairman—The Policy Committee will make the report.

#### Report of Policy Committee

Del. R. J. Johns (Winnipeg), chairman of committee — Mr. Chairman, We have a number of resolutions, but I think it advisable to read the entire number, then you can take them up singly.

First, the name of the organization. We recommend the name of the organization be "The One Big Union."

Second, we recommend the convention elect a committee of five irrespective of geographical location, for the purpose of carrying out the necessary propaganda to make the referendum a success.

Third, and further recommend that delegates from each province meet and elect a committee of five to work in conjunction with the central committee in carrying on the necessary propaganda to accomplish the wishes of the convention.

Fourth, we recommend the drafting and issuing of the referendum be left to the "central committee," also receiving the publishing returns of the vote.

Fifth, in the opinion of the committee it will be necessary in establishing an industrial form of organization to work through the existing trades councils and district boards, and no definite plan of organization can be submitted until after the referendum has been taken.

Sixth, the committee further recommend that after the returns of the vote are received, the central committee shall call a conference of representatives of trades councils and district boards to perfect the plans of organization. Basis of representation, affiliated membership of 5,000 or less, one delegate; over 5,000, two delegates; over 10,000 three delegates.

Seventh, we recommend that an appeal be made to the trades councils and district boards for a payment of two cents per member affiliated to finance the educational campaign for the inauguration of the "One Big Union." Applause.

Del. Campbell (Vancouver)—Was that recommendation two cents per month or per annum?

By the chairman—One payment.

Del. Johns (chairman of committee)—I will explain. We figure it will be necessary to have this paid to carry out the work. Now, to make the referendum a success we figured approximately a thousand dollars would cover the purpose. We figure there will be all kinds of literature to be distributed and it may be necessary to get a speaker on the road for a week or two. We figured a thousand dollars would cover it, and we could get this by two cents per member affiliated with each trades council and district board; that would cover the proposition.

By the chairman—I think the proper course, possibly, would be to take the report up seriatim.

Del. Farmilo (Edmonton)—I move the report be taken up clause by clause and each clause acted upon.

Del. Cottrell (Vancouver) seconded.

The motion, on being put by the chair, was carried.

Del. Johns (report of Policy committee continued)—The first clause; *we recommend the name of the proposed organization be "The One Big Union."* I move the adoption.

Del. Miller (Winnipeg Plasterers), seconded.

Del. Kavanagh (Vancouver) — Mr. Chairman, I do not see at this time the necessity of fixing a name. First of all, get the organization and then give it a name. There is no use giving it a name before you know it will be coming into existence, and the name does not make the organization, understand that. If this proposition goes through and if worked properly, it will do, when the conference meets which the committee recommend, the name can be picked for the organization. But to give a name to something not yet born is something premature and just as well left until the committee meets following

the vote being taken for the organization.

Del. Miller (Winnipeg)—Mr. Chairman, talking to the motion, I don't see anything defining a name; that "One Big Union" is a term and covers practically the form of organization, to my mind that clause is in the minds of the working class; to get that, to get the centralized idea, industrial unionism today, they want the "One Big Union" and that will appeal greatly to the masses and dictate the vote.

Del. Farmilo (Edmonton) — Mr. Chairman and delegates, I am somewhat in agreement with Delegate Kavanagh. It is somewhat premature to endeavor to name something that doesn't exist. Now most of the delegates here, that particularly those who are anxious to bring about one organization, have at least during the past number of years placed themselves on record as being particularly scientific and endeavor at least to deduct material conditions and factors that are at hand—the idea which shall determine their particular action.

Now here we are endeavoring to look into the skies and grab some name and attach it to all organizations throughout the whole of this province, and if you will, to all organizations throughout the whole of the Dominion of Canada. Here is the thing, the "One Big Union." You do know these generally must be acceptable to the people in this country, and until that time has arrived, and until you definitely formulate a policy; until we know the actual conditions are at hand that will guarantee this organization, I think we can readily leave the matter of a name until that period comes. If we are agreed that industrial unionism is the thing we want, then the matter of a name, as Delegate Kavanagh says, is not a very material factor. So far as bringing about the organization is concerned I think we should at least leave it to those discussing the whole matter or until at least we decide on a policy as to what manner or means we shall bring this organization about, whatever organization it might mean.

There is my position. I think we are a little off our base; I think we are running at random, therefore I

would offer my objection as a delegate, at least to naming the organization at this time.

Del. Cottrell (Vancouver)—I favor the motion, One Big Union, there is this about it whether you got "One Big Union" or not I have faith to believe that is what it will become.

Del. McKenzie (Vancouver)—I favor the name of the "One Big Union" for this reason, not that there is anything in a name, because it isn't the label on the bottle that counts; that is no proof the contents are such, but this much has got to be taken into account. The average working plug is looking for something of this nature, the "One Big Union" and in fact as far as propaganda is concerned, and as far as the average workman is concerned the thing he will ask and the thing we expect is that, and if we give it that name we will have at least be given credit to begin with for giving a name that is very appropriate. I believe organization in Australia goes under the same name or something similar; for that reason I speak in favor of the "One Big Union."

Del. Sinclair (Winnipeg)—Am I in order to make an amendment?

By the chairman—You are quite in order.

Del. Sinclair (Vancouver)—I move to call it "The Industrial Organization of the Workers"; it is a far more suitable name to me.

Del. Campbell (Vancouver) — Speaking to the recommendation of the committee, I realize this proposition is going to a referendum vote of the rank and file of the workers of this country. They will have something to vote for—"The One Big Union." It will appeal to the membership of the local unions. They will not vote for something if they don't know what it is, but it is something; here you have a name and it is going to swing the vote intelligently.

Del. Farmilo (Edmonton) — Mr. Chairman, I would—

By the chairman—Delegate Farmilo is out of order.

Del. Farmilo—Then I rise to make an amendment.

By the chairman—Which is not in order.

Del. Farmilo—I move the clause be deleted. I have that right.

By the chairman—The position of

the chair is not that the amendment is out of order, but Delegate Farmilo did not have the floor when he made the amendment. There was another Brother got up and was recognized by the chair, after which Delegate Farmilo got up.

Del. Farmilo—I have the floor now and I move that the clause lay on the table.

Del. McNabb (Lethbridge)—A point of order, Mr. Chairman. Can a delegate move an amendment after he makes a speech?

By the chairman—I take it that he has the floor after all who wish to speak have been given the privilege.

Del. McCormack (Edmonton), seconded Farmilo amendment.

By the chairman — The Farmilo amendment is that the name be deleted from the report.

The Farmilo amendment, on being put to a vote, was declared lost.

Motion, adoption of recommendation No. 1 of the Policy Committee, on being put by the chair, was declared carried.

Del. Johns (Chairman of Policy Committee) — Clause 2 — *We recommend the convention elect a committee of five, irrespective of geographical location, for the purpose of carrying out the necessary propaganda to make the referendum a success.* I move the adoption of the recommendation.

Del. Chisholm (Victoria), seconded.

Del. Bruce (Cadomin Mineworkers) — Mr. Chairman and Fellow Workers, I think from the committee's report, in order to see this thing through that it would be advisable to have an inter-provincial council.

By the chairman—The chair is not entitled to interrupt, but I take it the next clause would take the nature of an inter-provincial committee; that is the central committee would be assisted by a committee of so many from each province to assist that committee.

Del. Johns (chairman of committee)—That is covered by the next clause.

Del. Moulton (Victoria, Painters)—I move that the term "irrespective of geographical location" be deleted and that one representative from each province constitute the committee.

A delegate (unrecognized) — Mr. Chairman, I don't know whether I

read through the committee's recommendation right, in inserting those words, but seeing that this is an organization which is in an embryo stage, and that there is such and certain propaganda work to be done, and the insertion of these words to my mind are only that those men will be closer together, and there will be no unnecessary expense incurred in drafting propaganda.

The next clause provides for a council or executive committee from each province, if you like. This is the central committee for propaganda purposes, and I take it only a committee that will act until such times as this organization takes proper shape. That is what I take from the clause.

The motion to adopt recommendation No. 2 of the Policy committee, on being put by the chair, was declared carried.

Del. Johns (chairman of Policy Committee)—Recommendation No. 3 — *And further recommend that delegates from each province meet and elect a committee of five to work in conjunction with the central committee in carrying on the necessary propaganda to accomplish the wishes of the convention.* I move the adoption, Mr. Chairman.

Del. Rodie (Calgary) seconded.

Del. Bruce (Cadomin Mineworkers)—Mr. Chairman, do I take from the secretary's report the delegates from each province meet today to appoint delegates to this inter-provincial council?

Del. Johns (chairman of committee)—In the opinion of the committee, Mr. Chairman, the delegates present would elect a committee of five from each province. I take it the central committee meets with the provincial committee, and I think they should meet before leaving this city to decide upon what they are about to do.

Del. Bruce—As a believer in direct action, Mr. Chairman, I believe it is the best possible plan to get the inter-provincial councils from the delegates present.

Del. Johns (chairman of committee)—That is the idea; and you don't lose so much time.

Del. Bruce—That is the idea of the committee.

Del. Aldrich (Winnipeg, Boilermak-



ers)—Mr. Chairman, I understand that the idea is to call five from each province; call a meeting of the delegates here and elect five and those five to take the vote? Am I correct?

By the chairman—I take it the central committee will be elected by this convention according to the motion that has been passed previous to this, and there will also be taken from the convention the material for the inter-provincial councils, to work in conjunction with the central committee.

Del. Aldrich (Winnipeg)—I understood this committee of five from the provinces; this provincial council was to handle the vote; what I am trying to get at is what machinery is in operation for the east, seeing there are only western representatives present?

Del. Lovatt (Winnipeg, Bricklayers)—Mr. Chairman, the idea of the committee was we should have a central committee who should take the vote and manage the general business with a view to bringing this particular organization into existence. Then we want another committee elected to represent each province so they could be in touch with the central committee. Practically, the central committee will do all the organizing work, and the idea of having a provincial one in each province, that will work in conjunction with them. Then if it is necessary to have speakers to spread propaganda, if we have representatives in each province working in conjunction with the central committee, that will be about the best way of bringing it before them.

By the chairman—The Brother asked a question. I take it it will be this central committee that will be elected here who will issue the ballot.

Del. Johns (chairman of committee)—*The central committee will prepare the ballot; this ballot will be sent to the committees in each province and they will be responsible that the work is done in each province. We take it they are responsible to the central committee and they will work together. The provincial committees are responsible to see that all workers in the province are covered by the necessary propaganda. That is the work of each committee and the central committee will be assisted by them.*

Del. Rodie (Calgary)—I take it the

provincial committee is to be appointed here?

Del. Johns (Winnipeg)—Yes.

A delegate (unrecognized)—Who is looking after the ballot in the east?

Del. Johns (Winnipeg)—we have only representatives from five provinces, but I take it the central committee will propose some method of seeing the ballot is taken in the east. We cannot elect delegates if they are not present.

Del. Broatch (Calgary)—Mr. Chairman and Delegates, the programme as outlined by the committee this morning does not meet with my approval. In the first place it seems we are starting at the wrong end of the job. I thought, or had the idea, that we met for the specific purpose of outlining a policy for the west and to see in the future how far the east would come to meet that policy.

Now the first question I would like to ask the convention, did we expect a new form of organization to grow out of this conference? Do we expect a new form of organization to grow out of it?

In the second place, is the "One Big Union" the only thing we are going to accomplish here; is that only part of our work? If those two questions are answered we should fix what kind of form of organization we are going to put in effect. From the result of deliberations at this time we should elect a set of officers, and that set of officers would carry on the business whether forming one big union or not. To my mind the forming of this "One Big Union," is not all we are going to do at this present time, and think the committee's report should be a definite basis, and this part of the programme this morning has no bearing on the work; to my mind we can't get anywhere with it.

Del. Sinclair (Vancouver) — Mr. Chairman, as I understand it, this committee has been elected to send the necessary referendum vote to the different unions and the members affiliated with the western conference will have full say, and that the different executives proposed to be elected from the different provinces will carry out the necessary work in each province and they will see the vote is taken. This central executive as appointed will look after

sending out the vote; they will take care of that, and seeing there is no like organization in the east at present, I think they will look after that end of it, and the whole thing looks so simple; it looks simple to me at least, that as far as having a hard and fast plan, I see no necessity for having a hard and fast plan because you will have to get to know what the decision is first; so what is the use of going over a whole lot, and delegates saying what you are going to do until you know how the vote is?

Del. Cottrell (Vancouver) — Mr. Chairman and Delegates, Delegate Broatch mentioned one point with regard to electing officers. The committee discussed that matter and they were of the opinion the most efficient and simple method would be to simply elect a central committee of five and let them select who shall be the chairman, and if they don't like him at any time let them depose him, but if we make him president, he will be something above the others, therefore we thought it best to let the committee have the say-so as to who shall be the chairman, and further it will only be a temporary committee anyway.

By the chairman—I might point out to the delegates for each one to get up and express their individual opinions which is reiteration of what has already been said is only covering the ground uselessly and a waste of time, therefore unless there is some point that has not been raised I think we would do well to vote on the question.

Del. Moulton (Victoria) — Mr. Chairman, it appears to me—I am quite in agreement with the proposed committee—but it seems to me not sufficient consideration has been given to set the machinery to forestall any action by the authorities to “can” that executive and put them in the jug. I would like the chairman for the committee to take into consideration the advisability of making provision for co-operation in the event of any of the executive committee being arrested and placed in gaol. We know of all the processes by orders-in-council whereby executives of revolutionary organizations can be outlawed, and we never know when that process is likely to be put in operation. I think this is a point

which should be well considered by the delegates present this morning. If you are going to set machinery in motion for the organization you must also make arrangements for exigencies from a despotic government.

Del. Knight (Edmonton) — Mr. Chairman, with regard to that, it is not quite full enough to say we will have protection if the committee were thrown in gaol. I think we all know the only protection the working class will get is from their own organization, their own ranks, at least, and the protection will be for the working class of this country organizing. I can't see any argument in the statement by Delegate Broatch that in not electing officers we are starting wrong end first. It seems to me the most natural thing. We have gone on record for a certain kind of organization, industrial unionism, as has been stated and as this motion purports, there will be five elected from each province to get after the business end; to get down to fundamental details; that to me seems to be the only logical method. I don't see we can start without the information that that committee would get, and then they can start the details of the organization which is only coming into existence, and personally, I favor the proposal.

Del. McGrath (Calgary) — Mr. Chairman and Brothers, I do not wish to be accused of wasting time, but it does appear you are discussing the question as if industrial unionism was an accomplished fact. I just make the remark to get down to business. What is the use of preaching about something we haven't got?

Del. Barnicutt (Calgary) — Mr. Chairman, the question arises, is this committee to be elected at this convention to be a standing committee or only temporary? Provided the various unions support the resolution which is going to be sent out, the organization is going to grow throughout the west at least; then will that committee have the power in the future to take any action with regard to what formation this “Big Union” shall take? I would like to know whether it is a standing committee or only a temporary committee.

By the chairman—The committee

will be standing until the organization displaces that committee.

Motion, adoption of recommendation No. 3 of the Policy committee, on being put to a vote by the chair, was carried.

Del. Johns (chairman of Policy Committee)—Recommendation No. 4—*We recommend the drafting and issuing of the referendum be left to the central committee, also receiving and publishing returns of the vote. I move the adoption.*

Del. Seal (Winnipeg), seconded.

Motion, adoption of recommendation No. 4 of the Policy Committee, on being put to a vote by the chair, was carried.

Del. Johns (chairman of the Policy Committee)—Recommendation No. 5 *In the opinion of the committee it will be necessary in establishing an industrial form of organization, to work through existing trades councils and district boards, and no definite plan of organization can be submitted until after the referendum has been taken. I move the adoption.*

Del. Kavanagh (Vancouver), seconded.

Del. Little (Calgary)—Mr. Chairman, a question with regard to the provinces that are not represented here today, I take it that motion there entirely covers that question—that the central body will communicate with the trades councils of those provinces not represented.

Del. Johns (chairman of committee)—That is the intention.

Motion, the adoption of recommendation No. 5 of the Policy Committee, on being put to a vote by the chair, was declared carried.

Del. Johns (chairman of the Policy Committee)—Recommendation No. 6—*The committee further recommend that after the returns of the vote are received, the Central Committee shall call a conference of representatives of trades councils and district boards to perfect the plans of organization. Basis of representation, affiliated membership of 5,000, or less, one delegate; over 5,000, two delegates; over 10,000, three delegates. I move the adoption.*

Del. Hubble (Vancouver), seconded.

Del. Smitten (Calgary)—Mr. Chairman, just one phase of the situation, insofar as that is concerned, that appeals to me, and that is the recom-

mendation is representation from the trades councils and district boards, one for five thousand or less, and additional above. Have we given consideration of the size of representation that will perfect the plan of organization?

I have only gone into the question rather roughly, and in my belief this suggestion made by the committee we will have a conference represented by about fourteen individuals. Is that a sufficiently large conference to perfect the plan of organization?

By the chairman—The committee state to me they have taken that into consideration, and that is about the size of this meeting.

Del. Johns (chairman of committee)—We take it after they draw up a plan it will be submitted to a referendum vote. Now the question that came before the committee was this—if the rank and file decide to form the industrial organization, then I say the workers will soon decide how they are going to meet together. We figure it will be an easy proposition as we take it by this the craft line will be eliminated; that is the only thing that keeps it as it is and if you eliminate it, it will be easy to decide and it will not be necessary to work out any plan; it will be soon expressed by the rank and file. We take it that this will be more efficient instead of calling together a big conference of organized workers.

Motion, the adoption of the recommendation No. 6 of the Policy Committee, on being put to a vote by the chair, was carried.

Del. Johns (chairman of Policy Committee)—Recommendation No. 7—*We recommend that an appeal be made to the trades councils and district boards for a payment of two cents (.02c) per member affiliated, to finance the educational campaign for the inauguration of The One Big Union. I move the adoption.*

A delegate (unrecognized), seconded.

Del. Strutt (Winnipeg)—Mr. Chairman, it would seem to me that \$1,000 to start propaganda work, and to put speakers in the field would be entirely inadequate, when it is not merely a case of covering the four Western provinces, but the whole of Canada. I fail to see how a thousand dollars is going to accomplish that, and to

me it would seem five cents per member would be much more in line.

Del. Smith (Rosedale, Mineworkers)—Mr. Chairman, I don't think two cents would cover and I would make an amendment that it be five cents instead of two.

Del. McKenzie (Vancouver, Loggers), seconded.

A delegate (unrecognized) — Mr. Chairman, it is very easy, in case two cents is not sufficient for an appeal to be sent out to get some more money. I think two cents is quite sufficient for the time being, and in case they may require more an appeal for some more money can be made.

Del. Johns (chairman of committee) —We figured the cost of the membership would be pretty low and we figure that on this basis we would get over a thousand dollars in the four provinces. I take it the particular policy incorporated in the draft resolution having been derived in this country, I take it, the rank and file in each province will do pretty much its own propaganda and I think we would start with the two cents instead of an appeal for five and ten cents which would be appealing for a big fund at this time. If this fund we propose to raise by assessing two cents is inadequate, the membership will not fail to respond to an appeal for an additional amount.

Del. Bruce (Cadomin, Mineworkers)—Mr. Chairman, I would like to bring it to the attention of the convention to make a resolution that every one of the delegates present, when he goes back to his local union or trades council that he be sent back to work on behalf of "The One Big Union."

By some delegates—Sure! Sure!

Del. Little (Calgary, Carmen)—Mr. Chairman, I agree with the Brother, and I am of the same opinion that a thousand dollars in propaganda in the east would go no distance at all, and we are such an enlightened bunch in the west, if we went to these people and denote the secessionist movement, we will have to dip our hands in our pockets and support the motion for five cents.

Del. Pattison (Fort William)—Mr. Chairman, I can not see where by any conception we can impose a five cent levy upon the membership. The

present day, our total is 75c per month and it is impossible to get any more per capita than we are paying. To put this on the members at the present time you see what would happen, and as far as I am concerned, I would rather see the two cents than to put five cents on to the membership at the present time.

Del. Cottrell (Vancouver) — Mr. Chairman, I would like to point out, this thousand dollars is an exceptionally conservative estimate as the chairman of the committee said, considering the four western provinces. What we wish is this, that that thousand dollars or fifteen hundred or two thousand, whichever amount, would come as soon as possible. Don't make the thing so heavy you are going to delay the central council. I believe if you keep it at the two cents, when the first meeting of the council, if this is endorsed by the trades councils, they will immediately send the necessary funds, and after they are at work and the committee find they have not enough money, I don't think you are going to have any difficulty in getting them to support a further appeal.

Del. Brodier — Mr. Chairman, I would like to make it clear to the Brothers this call for two cents is not per capita for each month, it is just to start it off. I want you to be clear on that because you have another five cents.

Del. Lawson (Editor District Ledger, Fernie)—Mr. Chairman, I am given the privilege of a voice and I desire to make a few remarks. You have talked about the east, and I have an editorial in mind which I read very recently coming from the east, and I have been in close touch with the miners in and around Halifax. If you have read any of the discussions in that connection you would see how necessary it was for them to have some enlightenment in the east. I am speaking in regard to the money. I know the committee will need a thousand dollars, and the fact the committee has a thousand dollars, I am quite sure the miners alone, that of any of the people, I believe District 18 alone, among themselves, if the committee require it, they will be prepared to chip in liberally to help the campaign down there, because they are going to take

a referendum vote in the east for industrial unionism, but for some time propaganda has been spread down there, and for some time they have been receiving literature, and quite a few of the fellows are all ready to give in. They are all ready prepared to boost the ten thousand miners to go into the International organization. It is just a critical time and if you got the right propaganda, and get it there quick they are not going to go into the International organization, I can tell you that. But you have got to give the committee support and a thousand dollars will not go very far to make propaganda in that district.

If you want to organize industrially, that is the gateway right down there; press it in every way you can and through that they will develop rapidly; pay more attention to the enlightenment point of view, that is where you want your propaganda and I am quite sure that District 18 will be willing to go to their own locals and appeal for per capita and be prepared to put that in the hands of the committee for propaganda work.

Del. McKenzie (Vancouver) — Mr. Chairman, as seconder to the amendment to the committee's recommendation, the reason I am favoring five cents is this. As one of the delegates has said, this is only one payment. It is no monthly tax and recognizing the necessity of starting this on a sound basis, for propaganda and for them to work out the details, I think there isn't a member of the working class, and I think I am in the great majority at that; I think there isn't a member who will certainly have any kick in paying five cents in order to spend the necessary money for the emancipation of the working class.

That is the reason I seconded the amendment, and I am in favor of it, and as the editor of the District Ledger has just stated, we should do all we can to spread propaganda, in the eastern provinces, and I think if you consider, not only the speakers and organizers that must be obtained and the organization carried on, but every worker who has knowledge of the subject, has got to be on the job. You have got to consider this and it is the best to acquaint him with the

issue through working class literature. Apart from this, consider the powers you have to contend with. You have the postoffice authorities which, so far as revolutionary literature is concerned in this Dominion of Canada, if it isn't banned by the censorship; dumped overboard or something. We know for a fact it doesn't reach its destination.

We have all that to contend with, and no doubt, another bunch of organizers, spreading propaganda for the International affiliations to counteract this new move of the working class in the western provinces, which they have taken upon themselves to do.

I think no member of the working class would kick at paying five cents; only one instalment, may be the only one necessary to put the organization on a sound basis.

Del. Knight (Edmonton) — Mr. Chairman, I think probably this phase has been overlooked. Possibly the committee had it in mind that it was this 75c was being paid per month and another five cents would come hard on them. Why do we believe all these things? Just as soon as the membership are so much behind this move that they are ready to pay one cent; just at that moment you have declared war against the International, consequently you have no need to demonstrate because you have declared you are going to have a new organization, and what they have been donating to the Internationals can be used for the organization which they have endorsed. (Applause).

There is the position, and personally, I believe in calling a spade a spade, and that is we hear—for instance mention was made to the coal miners of this province, but it would seem to me absurd for the membership of that district at the same time paying per capita or anything to the international movement. This is the thing we want and immediately the funds which have been feeding the international movement are stopped all will go into an organization of their own.

Del. Sinclair (Winnipeg) — Mr. Chairman and Fellow Delegates, I understand that this two per cent— (Laughter).

By the chairman—We are not taking up the prohibition question.

Del. Sinclair — Never mind, Mr. Chairman, a little nonsense now and then is relished by the best of men. This two cents, I understand, is for the purpose of completing this new organization. As we all know we are taxed to death by per capita tax. We are paying taxes into different affiliations and organizations that the membership are sick and tired of. Now if we go on and create this organization with this small sum, and they are thoroughly convinced, which I believe they are that this is the organization that they want, it will only be a very short space of time when they sever connections with these other affiliations they have from time to time brought along.

We will not have to make any strenuous appeals to them for funds in order to have individual organizers going out to organize different districts. We will have individual members of our union as the organizers, and he will stand behind it because he has visions of the future and not only put his funds behind it, but will put all his energy and strength behind being in the organization. He will realize it is the only hope for him in the future.

It is very easy for us to say here to put it five cents, ten cents, or whatever it is, but what we want to do at first is to go along the lines suggested and complete the organization, and we can see funds coming for to carry this propaganda, and so far as that is concerned, each worker will, I believe, when we can show some organization which, I believe we will in the near future.

Del. Kermode (Vancouver)—I support the motion, Mr. Chairman. I think two cents per member will be sufficient. I am pleased to hear the number of members who wish to pay five cents, and others who wish to pay two bits, but I figure in Vancouver alone at two cents per member will raise \$260; that is from Vancouver alone. This with Victoria will make \$400 and I believe you will have pretty near a thousand dollars in British Columbia.

Del. Campbell (Vancouver) — Mr. Chairman, most of the speakers seem to think the only money necessary to

have would be that sent to the central soviet; they forget they will have lots of chances to pay three, four or five cents to the provincial soviet, and all the way down to the little village soviets, therefore lots of money will be needed and they need not be afraid they will not have to pay.

Secretary Midgley (Vancouver)—Mr. Chairman, in speaking to the committee's report, there is one thing a number of the delegates lose sight of entirely. That is this, before the reply to the referendum is received, and in order to give the opportunity to discuss the vote on the matter you must have some funds for the central committee to pay postage for the referendum, that is the reason it was put at two cents per capita. You can get an immediate grant from the various trades councils, and as Bro. Campbell says that will raise something in the neighborhood of \$300. If you say five cents that will be \$750 and will probably mean a referendum will have to be taken or a request to the organizations for per capita. In Vancouver, it means with the lesser amount you can get that into your treasury at once, if you raise it, it will take longer. If you have got the initial two cents it will be sufficient to start off, and I believe it will be more than a thousand dollars, and if the membership declare in favor of this matter, then the central committee will not have much difficulty in carrying on the work.

Del. Grogan (Vancouver) — Mr. Chairman, in listening to the remarks from the speakers here, they all report bad health from paying big dues; all feel sick and the argument is because they are sick they don't want to pay any more than two cents for a tonic.

Now the mind of the average worker is not to spend money as a rule for propaganda purposes, or he don't want to spend when he gets an order on the store. He don't want to spend, he wants to save it as much as possible. Now when the worker becomes class conscious why do they stop at two cents, ten cents or two bits. He begins to realize he is in the same position as the horse that had three gallons of oats to work on, if the owner of that horse finds he eats two and a half gallons he will cut out

the other half gallon. So far as the two cents goes I am not in favor, but I am in favor of making it ten cents because this is a big country and there are very few workers and it will be quite an expense to get around, and you will need lots of literature, and there is that possibility that you will get some trouble from the farmers down here when you start to preach socialism or reform. They will want to know how you eat it—with a spoon or a pitchfork. (Laughter).

The intelligence of this small town club is generally reflected in the village bull; just about as vulgar as that.

If it would be in order, I move an amendment that we make it ten cents.

Del. Boothman (Calgary) — Mr. Chairman, it seems to me that the motion as put is two cents per member, we are all representative from the west and it will not be necessary to carry propaganda throughout the west as it will in the east.

I rise therefore to make an amendment to the amendment *that the sum which shall be received from two cents per member shall be used exclusively in the east, and that the men who are here will further this propaganda, and of course the provincial executives which are appointed, will not require so much money.*

*I therefore move an amendment that the money raised from this source be used entirely in the eastern provinces.*

Del. Armstrong (Winnipeg)—For the want of something better I am going to second the amendment to the amendment.

By the chairman—Which one?

Del. Armstrong—That the sum be ten cents. In giving my reason to the convention why, it seems to me if there was the question of propaganda as I take it, it will require at least ten cents. I am not liberal with money, I am close, but something, friends, to awaken class consciousness requires lots of work; people don't understand their position. We have to take from the time, and I venture to say it will be 25c, 50c, another week may be a dollar, and I venture to say actually in getting Socialist propaganda anywhere it would be from \$5 to \$15, and there is

no use to be tricked with the question and attempt to do with little or nothing. If you try to ship out a bunch of propaganda for the One Big Union described it will be foolish.

Had I made the motion I would have suggested 25c to make sure of it; 25c will be nearer the amount. It is a fact, they can go out and run against a bootlegger and \$5 don't seem to bother many of them, but when it comes to a question of getting out propaganda, and that is the most important thing I know at the present moment outside of my own eats necessary to keep me alive, is the necessity for propaganda among the worker. How can you start propaganda with two cents? I don't believe, although the enthusiasm some of you fellows would lead us to believe, that you are serious in your own minds on the question of two cents. I don't think that will do. You must show you are undertaking something and determined to push it through, and you can't push it through on two cents.

Now, Mr. Chairman, if they show me what they can accomplish with a two cent proposition, in the west, let alone make an attack on the east, well they must be advanced in higher mathematics or something of that kind, because \$1,000 is a meagre sum of money to undertake to do anything with.

In Winnipeg we started to get out the Socialist Bulletin; we had trouble in getting it out and some of the members pledged themselves, some pledged themselves as high as \$3 a month, I pledged myself to \$1. I am not so liberal, but if I am pledged to \$1 a month to bring out the Bulletin, and I am asked to speak to the question as serious as this one, do you think I want to let the other fellow off with a penny? It just amounts to this, fellow workers, if you proceed by letting this fellow off for two cents cash; this fellow over here 25c, over there 50c; today, next week a dollar, the week after a dollar and a half, then the week after a shilling, why not when you are getting to the question of per capita, get down there and get one?

The question of the 75c going across the line, the only objection is how it is used, not the amount you pay for the per capita. How do you

figure it out? Every organization has been able to raise wages as a result of the machinery they have brought in motion. Then to me the capitalist class pays the per capita. I make boldly that statement. If as a result of this new form of organization that you are bringing into existence you are going to be able to better conditions and increase wages, then again it will be the capitalist class who will have to sweat for it. (Laughter).

Well, take it literally if you like, that is the way it presents itself to me, Sir, that we are going to better conditions, as we think we will by this proposition, why, gentlemen, it is two dollars we should be starting out with instead of two cents.

Del. Ellis (Victoria)—Mr. Chairman, following along the line Brother Knight has mentioned; we know full well it will be impossible to vote a per capita tax without a referendum of the membership. Also following the line of Bro. Knight that the membership possibly—we know we must fight it out through the mails—some may not be inclined to pay per capita tax, therefore possibly the suggestion that the locals be asked to provide something of the nature of a special fund towards the commencement of this work might be the better plan, and it seems to me, Mr. Chairman, practically every delegate here has put his vote signifying his intention to work and support this industrial union, and as far as I am concerned, I should say that they are hoping to get this thing started as soon as possible. It will be necessary for that committee to have funds in their hands at once and I am going to suggest to the delegates to back the proposition by each of the delegates giving \$1 apiece and that will give them something to work on straight away, and then make what arrangements you like to give per capita or a direct grant from those locals to further the project. I should like to hear the opinion of the delegates as to backing their opinion by giving a dollar apiece.

Del. Farmilo (Edmonton) — Mr. Chairman, as a point of information for the delegate who just spoke. The committee on ways and means will very likely be asking you to put for-

ward something to defray the expenses of this convention.

By the chairman — There is an amendment to the amendment by Del. Grogan and seconded by Del. Armstrong, *that the amount to be asked for be ten cents.*

Del. Pritchard (Vancouver) — Mr. Chairman and fellow workers, speaking against the amendment to the amendment, and the amendment, and in favor of the original motion I want to state, in my opinion, there is a tendency on the part of certain individuals to allow their hearts to run away with their heads. As a matter of principle, two bits or two cents whatever we think possible to extract from our pockets is a mere bagatelle, but as a matter of tactics it is another question. If we understand the working class movement aright we must make our tactics work in harmony with the principle, and while there swims around in our heads a certain notion, we want to keep in view the best possible means of arriving at the objective.

Now, I speak in support of the original motion for this reason. The committee appointed from this convention will have immediate work. It will have to go through certain preliminary stages. Those preliminary stages will need money almost immediately and if this referendum carries, as I trust it will, the various locals, district boards and trades councils on the basis of such referendum will take the cash from their treasuries and send in the amount, so that if individual members are required to advance it they will collect that amount afterwards. That can easily be done if it is two cents, but raising it to five cents, to go on and carry the argument that you make it more logical, you will really be making it more illogical, and so on if you make it ten cents. By making it two bits you would stultify your first action by your second, and not get the fees until afterwards, for the reason the referendum will have to be carried to all the various organizations that are affiliated, instead of the various councils and boards being able to give immediate assistance for your preliminary work. They would have to wait for the assessment to be collected from the individual members.

Although representing Vancouver



Trades Council, I am a member of an organization whose members do not all see one another; some are working while others are sleeping, because of their occupations they are kept out at night, and we only see one another when one bunch is eating before going to work and the other bunch is taking a meal before going home, so there would be delay, if the referendum had to be carried to them for this payment. On the other hand we have the nucleus of a fund, not a total fund, but something to get on with.

I am convinced if you can show the membership with the two cents per capita to get the machinery in operation in the preliminary stage you have nothing to fear from a proposition for an additional three cents, eight cents, or ten cents, as the case may be, but first of all show the machinery at work; some definite plan of action, and you have behind it men who are honestly in the movement and will direct the work with the material at hand.

I contend, Mr. Chairman, if we get immediate funds, the nucleus of a fund proper will be created by the two cents per capita assessment. Going over the thing just casually I find from the province of British Columbia with the two cents per capita, we can really get practically the thousand dollars from that province alone. I contend in the preliminary stage, the raising of money, you have to deal with the point of an organization having a big treasury and lots of enthusiasm and a few men willing to change opinion because the rank and file change. I contend, brother workers, the productive propaganda carried on in the Dominion of Canada has been carried not because of any great fund but in spite of no funds it has gone ahead. We will take a concrete example, the federated trades. If that referendum passes then the council itself from its funds can supply its quota; if you say five cents you must wait until it can come from the individual members, and the members do not live in the union hall, they work at their jobs and live in shacks and you must get the secretary to collect the assessment if that comes to more than the funds available, as in the case of 5 cents or 10 cents which had to be

raised. It has been also said to put it at one dollar and two dollars. I would like to be so enthusiastic to go with those delegates and say "here we will put in a dollar apiece." But I would be opposed to it at this time for this reason, that the man leaving it for someone else to do had better be thrown in the discard. I am working for the emancipation of the working class, not because I love the working class, but Pritchard is a member of that class and he is going to work for the emancipation of that class, and the man who is not working for that is neither friend nor fit company. (Applause).

Instead of letting your minds run riot, let us present our tactics in such a way as we can with the material we have at hand. We are all convinced that this has been born—with these few remarks I will conclude—We are convinced we are launching a new venture and every man here knows he must do his bit. There will be various obstructions to this new venture and we must be on guard at all times in laying the basis. Before trying to raise the superstructure we must build the foundation first.

I contend by passing the original motion suggested by the committee we are bound to place in the hands of the central committee sufficient funds in order to enable them to pass through the preliminary stages. After that, may be two weeks, may be a month, we can again call for an assessment and again for donations for the treasury which has been depleted and then we can throw our entire funds into the organization proper. (Loud applause).

Grogan - Armstrong amendment to amendment, on being put to a vote by the chair, was declared lost.

Smith - McKenzie amendment, on being put a vote by the chair, was declared lost.

Motion, adoption of recommendation of the committee, on being put to a vote by the chair, was declared carried.

Del. Johns (chairman of Policy committee)—*I move the adoption of the report of the committee as a whole.*

Del. Chisholm (Victoria), seconded.

Del. Alexander (Vancouver)—Mr. Chairman, I would like to suggest

that the delegates should bring before their locals how this matter of financing the proposition can be done for the purpose of getting voluntary donations from their unions. I, myself, am practically sure that the organization that I am sent here to represent would be willing to make a donation to assist the proposition, therefore I merely suggest that the other delegates should take this back, and if their local will subscribe I don't think the committee will have any objection to collecting subscriptions.

By the chairman—I take it, you mean to ask for voluntary donations in excess of this amount.

Del. Broatch (Calgary)—I would like to ask if it is to adopt the report of the committee as a whole or is their report progress. Does this conclude the report of their work?

By the chairman—The chairman moved the adoption of the report as a whole.

Del. Broatch—Does that finish the entire work of our Policy committee? Is it in the hands of the Policy committee to get this referendum to work at that; would that be their work the question of their policy?

By the chairman—The chair would rule this completes the report of that work. The Policy committee are at present constituted and any work referred to them from time to time, they will bring in a report on that matter.

Motion, adoption of the report of the Policy committee as a whole, carried.

Secretary Midgley (Vancouver) — Read following telegram:

Edmonton, Alta., March 14—Tallon, Paget Hall, Calgary — Unable support action re withdrawing from Internationals. As unable to be present at that session cancel my credentials.—“Signed” J. Dedge, Saskatoon.

Telegram ordered filed by the chair.

Secretary Midgley (Vancouver) — (Read telegram from Vancouver Painter's union; see resolution No. 39, proceedings, third day, morning). Referred to Resolution committee by consent. (Read telegram from Gordon Cascaden; see resolution No. 33, proceedings, third day, morning). Re-

ferred to Resolution committee by consent.

Secretary Midgley—I have a document from the Non-partisan Political League of Canada, together with resolutions therefrom.

By the chairman—A letter and resolution from the Non-partisan Political League, do you wish to entertain this as subject matter for this convention?

A delegate (unrecognized)—Moved (seconded), *that the communication be filed without being read.*

The motion, on being put by the chair, was declared carried.

*Report of Resolution Committee*

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Resolution No. 4 (submitted by the B.C. Federation of Labor) — *Whereas, certain scientific and religious literature has been placed as prohibitive, owing to regulations imposed under the War Measures Act of the Dominion of Canada.*

*And whereas war has to all intents and purposes ceased and armies being in process of demobilization;*

*Therefore be it resolved, that this convention demand full freedom of speech, press and assembly, and advocate united action by organized labor to enforce these demands;*

*And be it further resolved that this convention demand the release of all political prisoners and the removal of all disabilities and restrictions now upon working class organizations and that we favor united action by organized labor to enforce these demands.*

Recommendation of committee — (Resolution No. 4) as amended:

*Whereas a general censorship has been instituted against freedom of speech, press and assembly;*

*Be it resolved, that this convention demand full freedom of speech, press and assembly, and demand the release of all political prisoners and the removal of all disabilities and restrictions now upon the working class organizations and that a referendum asking for a general strike, be taken on these questions, to become effective June 1st. I move the adoption, as amendment.*

Del. Pritchard (Vancouver), seconded.

Del. Reed (Calgary)—Mr. Chairman, speaking to the motion, there is a matter I admit here and it might

not interest the organization, that is wireless outfits. I notice you only ask to rescind part of it, now that is used by the government but no one else. As workers we don't use it but you are only asking there for three things—freedom of speech, press and literature, and I would like to say any form of order-in-council is wrong and the whole thing should be put into that.

Del. Knight (Edmonton)—I would like to ask the chairman of the Resolution committee is that the only resolution pertaining to freedom of speech or literature?

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee) — There are others which came up but it was the opinion of the committee that this covered all matters better inasmuch as it contained both censorship and imprisonment of political prisoners, and the committee as far as they have gone into it, considered that the resolution covered the subject matter better than the other resolutions presented. We had other resolutions which contained one or the other, but this contains both clauses and the committee thought it was the best.

By the chairman — Delegate Reed just in order to be clear, what did you wish to include—what class?

Del. Reed (Calgary) — The one thing specialized, it is not for me or any worker to operate; after the order-in-council was passed nobody could use the wireless.

By the chairman—The question is as to operating a wireless outfit.

Del. Bruce (Cadomin, Mineworkers)—I put forward a resolution yesterday to the Resolution committee that in proposals embracing freedom for political prisoners, that we also include military prisoners; that is prisoners serving in military camps for breaches of discipline and those who are guilty under the Military Service act, and as they are all of the working class and of ourselves, I think we should also include them. I would like to see that as an amendment.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—I may say, in the opinion of the committee, a prisoner under the Military Service act is a political prisoner. It is a political offence as distinguished from a common criminal, such as taking something when

you think it belongs to you and it doesn't.

Del. Bruce (Cadomin) — Under common law in Canada, they are not considered political prisoners.

Del. Knight (Edmonton) — Mr. Chairman, there is one point; just an explanation of the facts, you often get an audience asking for the release of political prisoners. It is worked up all over the country. We are asking for the release of those whom they consider as enemies; that is, actively working for the German government in this country. I simply express this because it is one more proposition that they put forward when you ask particularly for the release of political prisoners. They permeate the whole particular sections in Alberta with that idea, consequently you are faced in this country by the mere mention of full release of political prisoners with that.

Mr. Chairman, there should be something said on that motion. Here we are resolving again for freedom of speech, freedom of literature, and the release of political prisoners. All through the country we have had petitions and resolutions going up time after time. What is the result; what reply have you received? Only the last couple of weeks they put the ban on the Revolutionary Age. I heard the "Red Flag" also, if it is not under the ban at the present time. And the matter of freedom of speech—they have free speech and the mayors attend and you pass resolutions for freedom of speech and it is the general thing that we have freedom of speech, but offhand they work and shut down on that class of propaganda. That is the method with the working class that they are pursuing; that is what we are up against.

This ban on literature, there are cases every week of people being seized for having literature in their possession, and in turn they try to throw off the responsibility from Ottawa on the provincial government; just merely passing it back and while a good many cases have been reduced the matter of a few weeks instead of a few years, nevertheless it throws it all in one quite large aspect and to me, while I cannot define myself as to any definite attitude that we can take, yet it is well to know—for

you all to know here, at the present in Canada the ruling class, the government at Ottawa, holds you in supreme contempt. That is a fact that is emphasized in face of all you have been asking for, they put on not only their own particular rules but they have incited thug rule.

There is the position we are in at the present time. I don't look for much hope myself but it is well to know and well too, that these resolutions go up, and to call meetings, public meetings for the release of political prisoners because the thing is practically side-tracked because it is supposed to hurt the feelings of those in some particular community. Now to me that is one of the foremost questions — the release of political prisoners. We want those boys out of gaol naturally. Now I happened to be there on one occasion, at least I know one young fellow who suffered in gaol, and some people will say it is sentiment. I want to present this one case; I would say he was 28 years of age, a fine fellow and a Socialist and was opposed to anything in the nature of war, as far as he was, as an individual was concerned, a class conscious worker. He was thrown in gaol for not coming to time under the Military Service act. Here is the position — if you go to gaol in gaol as a common felon. When I went back to Edmonton I went to see the comrade in gaol. He had got enough to break the constitution of the average human being in a few weeks. If you asked him questions he would speak rationally for a few minutes then he would drift off — "Well they did not break me anyhow," and the tears would run down the fellow's face from sheer weakness, that was the only thing, physically they had broken down his body but couldn't break his spirit.

These things are going on and the fact of them being comrades of mine you can realize I feel intense on this thing. I recognize I might have to go through the same deal so might any of us. There is the position we have to look at in this matter; as the facts are and the powers that be are not going to lift that in spite of all petitions. That is one particular reason that we have to take definite action and a more definite line towards class organizations, and what

we can't get through petitions from that class organization at home the position will come when we will have to take it by the physical force by which they hold us in subjection. (Loud applause).

Del. Mrs. Armstrong (Winnipeg) — Mr. Chairman and fellow workers this is one of the things that brought me this far. The Women's Labor league in Winnipeg have been fighting with petitions ever since they started to put the boys in gaol. I may say while we sit here and talk about these things, we can't realize what it means until you go to the pen and see. I have been down, took parcels Christmas time, and walked home with parcels, you couldn't give those boys anything. They had them marching up and down in snow up to their knees all dressed up in those fancy suits, they provide, like cattle herded around and we are sick and tired sending in petitions. We get the regular stereotyped reply every few months — "We are giving this matter attention" and we will hear again, but when we hear it is the same old stereotyped reply.

I am here to ask you to push this thing with your industrial power to get those boys out of prison. If you pass the resolution and simply leave it, it will be the same. I notice with Lewis it is different, when they said he had to be put out of gaol or they would strike. It wasn't but a very few hours when we got in Winnipeg that he was out so why not take the same action for all these boys. (Applause).

These boys had the courage of their convictions anyway, which many of us have not. We were cowards when it came to going to prison. A bunch that were going to stand pat went to the woods, and one of our boys who was on a homestead is a political prisoner because a postmaster in Manitoba squealed on these boys when he came down to vote anti-conscription, at least voted for Laurier. When they lined up at the post office this old conservative heeler, tory heeler and thug, he asked the boys if they were going to register their vote. He was postmaster and everything, scrutineer, enumerator and whole push. When this boy came down, in a little gang, most of them Social Demo-

crats, not Reds, and determined to do the best they could to help the cause along, as they say. They came in a little gang foolishly, three or four or six or seven but had the courage to say they were out to buck conscription. It wasn't long before the Mounted Police were telegraphed for by this same thug. They came down and went to the lad's homestead and didn't even give him a chance to lock up the house or do anything with his cattle; just took him right there and brought him to Winnipeg, and in spite of all we could do, sent him down for two years.

As I say, he went up and there were others treated very much the same, and all those boys are up at Stony Mountain. But they will all get to hear everything we do here. We are allowed to write every week but are not allowed to get any answers. Once every three months, Mr. Rose gets a letter from his son. He is the one they dragged from the homestead and his poor old father had to go there to straighten things up for him.

Now if you tell them what you are going to do, the same as they did for Lewis, when all these boys are suffering. They did send that for him and we don't know what the powers that be are doing now to them; we don't know all those boys suffer for us, but in this I say why not take this up right; instead of it being an appeal for one man take definite action. Why not take it for us and make a real good job of it.

Del. Knight (Edmonton) — Mr. Chairman, I want to move an amendment.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee) — I am going to suggest one now. *"That we demand the release of all political prisoners and ask that a referendum for a general strike on same be taken."*

Del. Knight—The amendment I had in mind was of a very similar nature but I recognize we should also act with the object of placing the executive of congress on record. I think we should add that we should send this decision to the executive of Trades Congress and we would know where they stood, and it would help us.

Del. McFegan (Calgary, U.M.W.A.) —Mr. Chairman, I would like to add

that we would put a time limit on right now. This has gone too far, in my opinion, and I would add that the referendum be taken inside thirty days, and that when that referendum comes back she should be shut down as soon as possible.

Del. Hooley (Calgary)—Mr. Chairman, there is not so much banned literature as we imagine. If you have ever noticed, the moving picture theatres advertise this picture — "Just barely got past the censor." Have you ever noticed the crowds that turn out in response to that? The ban on literature has done something along the same lines. It is a very good move that they are working for us. On the other hand we have got to take notice following the disciplinary action of those orders-in-council, and they have to be released in some manner.

I rise to support the amendment as being before the house. There is a suggestion that Bro. Tom Moore be got on record. I believe he has gone on record as having every faith in the present government taking this under consideration in the near future and he is sure the cabinet will see that something is done. That is the gist of Bro. Moore's action in the matter. Of course I do believe that we ought to again put him on record. Moore's whole plea, if he has got any, seems to be to stand a bunch of working men, tell them to get lined up against the wall and be shot. I think that is the case in taking into consideration the fact of the case, or at least taking into consideration very few of the facts.

By the chairman—I think the proper suggestion will be served if we will deal with the subject matter of the motion. This is really not an amendment, I think you would dispense with all this, on account of the fact that first we are making an organization and then we will determine our action, and I think too, perhaps it would not be proper in our proposed action but by a future motion to send where we see fit.

Del. Knight (Edmonton) — I am quite in accord with the position stated by Bro. Kavanagh, with adding that to the motion.

By the chairman—In your suggestion you propose sending it to congress.

Del. Knight—That would be a good thing to let them know.

By the chairman—After we determine our position at a future time; leave it until after we decide that, whether we send it to congress or not.

Del. Atkinson (Carbondale, Mine-workers) — Is that time limit being set?

Del. McFegan (Calgary, U.M.W.A.) — I make an amendment that a time limit be set.

A delegate (unrecognized), seconded.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—There is a resolution which calls for the inauguration of a six hour day on June 1st or a general strike; a general strike to enforce it and there is no use if you are going to make it for the one but make it go for them all. You will take into consideration everything and work out one line which will cover everything necessary in the one day and on the one proposition and settle the bunch at the one time.

Del. McFegan (Calgary, U.M.W.A.) — Thirty days.

By the chairman—That the referendum be in within thirty days. It has been moved and seconded that you agree to the period of thirty days that we will take action. I believe the referendum vote is to be put within thirty days.

A delegate (unrecognized) — Mr. Chairman, as seconder to the motion I understand the motion this way, that the referendum and action be taken within thirty days, and I think it quite possible to have it done.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Mr. Chairman, speaking to the mere fact that these men are in gaol proves conclusively the workers are not taking notice. That being the case you would have to get to work and carry on propaganda to awaken them to the conditions that exist.

The six-hour day was called May the first originally but we decided when adopting the resolution in the B. C. Federation of Labor that, that would not give sufficient time to cover B. C. with propaganda. With that in view, if you are going to make it stick, make it stick good so that when action is taken there will be no further attempt to resist the

performance. You must understand to the man in gaol, whether years or months, he would rather wait another thirty days to have the real demonstration than to have any abortive attempt which might be resultant of further persecution made upon himself, so if we get after it and can be in a position whereby we are assured of success I believe it should be left over and a couple of months is the proper time.

In carrying on propaganda it is not striking but the threat that compels them to move, and in accordance with this suggestion by Delegate Knight I am going to move if this is adopted, that we immediately telegraph Ottawa to this effect and state that we are still in session and awaiting decision on that matter.

Del. Trotter (Vancouver) — Mr Chairman, the Ottawa government is passing the bulk of the work, from a letter I just got from the secretary a few minutes ago. I have the proposed bill of the Victoria legislature, which is going to carry the case of the men whom we are now discussing considerably further and deprive them of citizenship.

Shortly this measure proposed at Victoria, is going to take with these people and they are going to amend the Provincial Elections act, and deserters shall be disfranchised. A deserter means: "Any man who has at any time deserted or attempted to desert from His Majesty's naval or military services any man who, having been taken on the strength of any unit of His Majesty's military forces, has been declared a deserter therefrom by a court of inquiry held under military law, but not including any absentee without leave so declared a deserter who, having subsequently returned to the services, has been exonerated by any competent military authority, or for whose absence from service reasonable excuse is established by satisfactory evidence.

"Any man, who being required by any military law to report for service or for medical examination or re-examination, and not having been placed on active service, has without reasonable excuse failed to obey the requirement and to report accordingly."

Then they tell you military law includes "The Militia Act" being chapter 41 of the Revised Statutes of Canada, 1906. "The Military Service Act, 1917," "The Army Act for the time being in force in the United Kingdom. "D" All proclamations, regulations, and orders made under the authority of any of the Acts mentioned in this subsection.

Then they give each class of persons disqualified from voting: Every deserter, and people are not allowed to vote in the province of British Columbia who have received exemption for any purpose whatsoever. Every man who has been granted a certificate of exemption from military service or from combatant service, pursuant to section 11 of the "Military Service Act, 1917," being chapter 19 of the Statutes of Canada for the year 1917, solely or in part on conscientious grounds within the meaning of that section, or who while on active service has obtained exemption from combatant service on the like grounds.

So that even a person on active service and who has been retired from any part of the service representing the King's forces on account of conscientious reasons, notwithstanding he might have been under fire or any danger at all shall be deprived of the right to vote in British Columbia. That is going further than the mere question of imprisonment of political prisoners, and shows the necessity of taking more action. Also it shows we will have to take still stronger parliamentary action. You are not going to have the support in taking parliamentary action of the persons that have been deprived of the vote under present conditions.

Del. Sinclair (Vancouver)—I don't see any bearing on the matter, having a vote. I have been in the country fifteen years and never voted yet. So far as taking the franchise off let it go so long as we line up conditions alongside the workers and fight. I don't see why we should worry about the vote; it is neither here nor there.

By the chairman—Let us deal with the resolution before the house.

Del Roberts (Silverton)—Speaking to the recommendation of the committee I don't see how it is possible for us to carry a general strike. We know according to the list the dele-

gate read in here they will have us all in the penitentiary. At the present time I think it is up to us to have the convention organize and get the workers all together on this and call a general strike the first of June as suggested by the B. C. Federation of Labor. In that confusion it is impossible for us to do anything because we have no time. If we are going to beat the master class we might as well go right all the way for a campaign of organization.

By the chairman—The amendment insists that a vote be taken and action taken within thirty days.

Del. McFegan (Calgary, U.M.W. A.)—I didn't know of this other case for the 1st of June so with the consent of the seconder I would withdraw the amendment.

A delegate (unrecognized)—As seconder, I consent, Mr. Chairman.

By the chairman—Is there any objection on the part of the convention to withdrawing the amendment.

Voices—No. No.

By the chairman—The motion is the recommendation of the committee.

Del. Bruce (Cadomin, Mineworkers)—That resolution still does not embody the military prisoners; they are not political prisoners.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee) — As the committee understand, any prisoner who is held because of an offence against the government or order-in-council is a political prisoner, whether it be an offence against the Military Service Act instituted by the Union government or whether it be any act by any government that man is a political prisoner, as compared with a prisoner committing an offence against property.

Del. Moulton (Victoria)—Military law is not common law and they cannot be political prisoners.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—There are no two powers; the power is the ruling class, and the power which they put into force is political. If you want to add military prisoner, you can.

Del. Moulton (Victoria)—A point of information, Mr. Chairman, the chairman of the Resolution committee in reading the amendment he did not state the vote was to be taken and that action was required by the 1st

of June. I want to be clear if that is embodied in the resolution or the amendment?

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—I mean wait for the six-hour proposition and this; the two things coupled for action.

Del. Stevens (Victoria)—The telegram Bro. Kavanagh mentioned, is it going to be sent directly right now?

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Immediately this is adopted.

Del. Knight (Edmonton) — One thing I think some of the delegates want to know. Did you insert military? That is a mistake, anybody who has been in the army knows that. It is excellent, but they have as well military prisoners for smashing windows, for getting drunk and they are thrown in the pen. I know, I was once in the service, and what you will ask for—what you are asking for there, to put it in plain words. is to open the gaols and let every prisoner out. We realize the difficulties in the way of such a thing. I think mentioning military prisoners, the wide scope military means, I think is a big mistake.

Del. Bruce (Cadomin)—Mr. Chairman, when I made the motion that military prisoners be included, I made it to understand that it did not include prisoners for breaches of discipline while in military service, I made it for defaulters under the Military Service Act.

Del. Broatch (Calgary)—We don't want any change to the recommendation. We object to the word military being in.

Del. Hodgson (Vancouver)—Is that word military going to be deleted from that resolution?

By the chair—Yes.

Motion, adoption of recommendation of committee regarding resolution No. 4 as amended, on being put to a vote, was carried.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of Resolution committee) — I now move a telegram be sent to Ottawa immediately, containing the meat of that resolution, and notifying them we are still in session awaiting a reply on the proposition.

Del. Stevenson (Victoria), seconded.

Del. Mrs. Armstrong (Winnipeg)—Would that include that you are going to take a strike?

The motion, on being put to a vote, was carried.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee) — Resolution No. 5 (B. C. Federation of Labor) — *Whereas holding the belief in the ultimate supremacy of the working class in matters economic and political and that the light of modern developments have proved that the legitimate aspirations of the labor movement are repeatedly obstructed by the existing political forms, clearly showing the capitalistic nature of the parliamentary machinery.*

*This convention expresses its open conviction that the system of industrial soviet control by selection of representatives from industries is more efficient and of greater political value than the present system of government by selection from district.*

*This convention declares its full acceptance of the principle of "Proletarian Dictatorship" as being absolute and efficient for the transformation of capitalist private property to communal wealth.*

*The convention sends fraternal greetings to the Russian Soviet government, the Spartacans in Germany and all definite working class movements in Europe and the world recognizing they have won first place in the history of the class struggle.*

*(Covered by above resolution No. 5).*

*Moved by Mrs. Parkes, seconded by Mrs. Armstrong, that we "The Women's Labor league" believe that now that the war is over, there is no necessity for imprisonment of political prisoners, therefore be it resolved, that we demand the immediate release of all political prisoners now in Canadian prisons, and that our two delegates to the Western conference use what power they have to further this resolution.*

Recommendation of committee: Favorably.

I move the adoption.

Del. Bardsley (Victoria), seconded.

Motion, adoption recommendation, on being put by the chair, was carried.

Del. Hatley (Vancouver) — Mr. Chairman, I would like you to call the nays on that question.

By the chairman—I thought I had.



Those contrary to the motion please signify.

Del. Hatley (Vancouver)—I didn't expect to hear any, but that is what I wanted to hear—silence.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—In looking over the six-hour day proposition I find we have ordered the general strike for June 1st, while some others deal with May 1st. Those dealing with the release of political prisoners and the order for the strike should be the same date, June 1st, so I would suggest changing the date on the six-hour day to June 1st. I will do so if I have the consent of the convention.

By the chairman—The chairman of the committee mentions May 1st should be amended to June 1st.

By Del. Kavanagh—Amend it to June 1st.

By the chairman—The chairman of the Resolution committee states that the resolution he refers to in connection with the six-hour day is not definite and asks consent to incorporate the date June 1st, also on the resolution for political prisoners.

Del. Broatch (Calgary)—Didn't we incorporate that in the resolution already passed?

Del. Kavanagh—I think by one already passed.

By the chairman—To make it clear, the committee request that they be allowed to incorporate the date, June 1st, where it refers to the release of political prisoners.

Del. McKenzie (Vancouver) — I move it be incorporated in the motion.

Del Sinclair (Vancouver), seconded.

The motion, on being put to a vote by the chair, was declared carried.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of Resolution committee)—Resolution No. 6 (B. C. Federation of Labor)—*Whereas the termination of the war in Europe will finally release approximately 50,000,000 people for service in the industrial fields and whereas the workers of the world engaged in productive occupations, during the period of hostilities have produced sufficient food, clothing, and other necessities of life for the people of the world;*

*Therefore be it resolved that this convention assembled go on record as demanding a six-hour work day, 5*

*days a week to go into effect on June 1st, 1919, and an intensive education propaganda be instituted to that end. Recommendation of committee: Committee report favorably. I move the adoption.*

Del. Hatley (Vancouver), seconded.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Mr. Chairman, in connection with this, one reason for which it was brought up as much as any other, is the fact that now the troops are coming back from overseas the unemployed situation arises. The ruling class has effected a plan of such speeding up of production, but not one thing do they suggest which attempts to solve the unemployed grip they hold upon you. We as workers realize in order to take our place industrially, even as a temporary measure, you must reduce to a six-hour day. Does it carry six hours pay for a six hour day with the suggestion? That is the proposition the returning men face, and it is owing to this fact that this resolution was introduced in the first place, because we have got, in spite of the lies carried overseas, to understand that the only people who can attempt to deal with their problem is the working class themselves. (Applause).

Motion, the adoption of the recommendation, on being put by the chair, was carried.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of Resolution committee)—Resolution No. 7 B. C. Federation of Labor — That the interests of all members of the international working class being identical, that this body of workers recognize no alien but the capitalist. At the same time we are opposed to any wholesale immigration of workers from other parts of the world who would be brought here at the request of the ruling class.

Recommendation of committee — *This has been brought in in view of the agitation from Boards of Trade, Rotary clubs and other such institutions for the purpose of drawing a red herring across the mind of the men coming back. It is another case whereby they attempt to cover up the issue and they are attempting to link the alien enemy with the organized labor movement in order that they may be whipped. To us workmen no worker can be an alien so far as we are con-*

*cerned. Our alien, insofar as we are concerned, is the master class, that is the reason for this resolution.*

I move the adoption as the committee report favorable on this resolution. (Applause.)

Del. Allman (Vancouver)—Seconded.

Del. Pritchard (Vancouver) — Mr. Chairman, I wish to reiterate the statements of Brother Kavanagh in this respect, I would like to say one word with regard to the propaganda carried on by the aliens, that is the master class. The poison they put into the mind of the returning men that the enemy alien as he is at the present time, is a danger to this country. I take it that if these people were ever a danger to the country, it was in the time of war and not now when peace has come. But when war was on, when any danger, if any existed, they compelled the alien to go to work whether he wanted to or not.

Del. Campbell (Vancouver) — Mr. Chairman, one point I would just like to bring out; the propaganda that has been spread throughout the country, is that the enemy alien puts you out of a job and that they should be put out of the job and the soldier be put into that job. The soldier is getting starved and when the alien is getting starved then the soldier will be put out, a kind of a see-saw business all the time. It will not do anything at all in relieving the matter.

The motion, adoption recommendation of the committee re Resolution No. 7 on being put to a vote by the chair was carried.

(Submitted by the Alberta Federation of Labor):

(a) Whereas the most momentous issue to be decided by the working class of the world is the stand to be taken by them in regard to the Russian and German revolutions, it matters not in what quarter of the globe you dwell, or to what form of government you are subject, the mighty revolution which is gradually enveloping the whole of Europe will largely determine your conditions of existence for the next generation. The war between opposed imperial interests has ceased; the suddenness of its collapse being due to the social revolution which, starting in Russia, gradually found its way into Austria

and finally Germany. Those who were expecting at any moment to be called upon to don the khaki and face the ghastly horrors of twentieth century wholesale slaughter owe a deep debt of gratitude to those splendid Russian revolutionists. Millions of soldiers on the battle fronts of Europe owe their lives to the glorious victory of the Russian working people. Are we prepared to repay that debt by extending to Russia the hand of fellowship in such a manner as will frustrate the nefarious designs of organized international capitalists? Throughout the long years of this brutal blood feast it has been unceasingly proclaimed from press, pulpit and platform "that we must crush German despotism and make the world safe for democracy." Millions of men heard and believed, and today are rotting under the battlefields of France and Flanders. Have they been betrayed? If not, why are those chiefly responsible for the overthrow of the German ruling class being vilified by our government controlled press? Why are the Allied nations supporting counter - revolutionary forces in Russia? Why do our government agents mouth much of "self-determination," while every means is taken to undermine and handicap the soviet administration in Russia? The working class are bewildered by these contradictions, and although instinctively inclined to support the social revolution which has developed so mightily, it nevertheless hesitates after reading the poisonous propaganda of the Allied governments. Hesitation is fatal, as the unceasing campaign of calumny can have but one purpose, the working class endorsement of the capitalistic class design to throttle the Socialist republics of Russia and Germany. The aspirations of organized labor as embodied in the preamble to the Alberta Federation of Labor constitution, "the social ownership and control of the means of production, transportation and distribution," are now taking material shape under the soviet administration and we are challenged either to renounce our principles or to take such action as will save them from becoming meaningless phrases. Therefore be it resolved that this conference places itself on record as being

in full accord and sympathy with the aims and purposes of the Russian Bolshevik and Spartacan revolutions; and be it further resolved that this conference is in favor of calling a general strike should the Allies persist in their attempt to overthrow the Soviet administration in Russia or Germany or in any country in which it is or may be established.

(b) Moved by Mrs. Higley, seconded by Mrs. Parkes, that we, "The Women's Labor League," realize that the workers of Russia are struggling for economic freedom, and that the Allied troops now being sent to Russia are a detriment and a hindrance to this struggle; Therefore be it resolved that we demand the immediate withdrawal of all Allied troops from Russia; and further, that no more be sent, and that our two delegates to the Western Conference, Mrs. Armstrong and Mrs. Logan, use what power they have to further this resolution.

(Submitted by the B.C. Federation of Labor.)

(c) Whereas, the Allied powers are still carrying on an aggressive campaign against the soviet government of Russia despite the protest of the working class of the allied nations;

Be it resolved that this convention protests against the continuance of the war being waged against the Soviet Government of Russia; and

Be it further resolved, that we recommend to our affiliated membership that we refuse to assist in the forwarding of men, money and materials intended for use against the workers of Russia and that the Executive Committee carry on a system of propaganda with this end in view.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Recommendation of committee that the following be substituted for (a), (b) and (c): *Be it resolved that this conference places itself on record as being in full accord and sympathy with the aims and purposes of the Russian Bolshevik and German Spartacan revolutions; and be it further resolved that we demand the immediate withdrawal of all Allied troops from Russia; and be it further resolved that this conference is in favor of calling a general strike on June 1st should the Allies persist in their attempt to overthrow the Soviet*

*administration in Russia or Germany or in any country in which it is or may be established, and that a system of propaganda be carried on and that a referendum vote be taken. I move the adoption.*

Del. Mrs. Armstrong (Winnipeg)—Seconded.

Del. Bruce (Cadomin Mineworkers)—In reference to the revolutionary parties in Russia and Germany; there are others, two or three, and I would like to know what party you mean; the present governing party in Germany or if it is the Spartacus Party?

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Only two parties; in Germany the Spartacus; in Russia the Bolshevik.

Del. Knight (Edmonton) — Mr. Chairman, speaking to that, we naturally have to ask what occasioned this? For instance, there is, we know definitely, a struggle going on in the world between the Soviet system of administration and the capitalist system of administration. To my mind there is no doubt but what this struggle will go on until one or the other is victorious. Also I have no doubt the capitalist class is going to use all ends to defeat the movement for the Soviet administration, and we are faced with this position, that it may be will become necessary, and I think it will, for the capitalist government of the world to declare war on Russia. Then what is the position of the working class in this country? You are in accord with the administration as it is in Russia.

Now it is a position that has to be taken seriously; there is no use waiting for a definite call and a few more orders-in-council and so forth to line us up to suit the masters' purposes. There was something that caught my eye in the paper the other day; an editorial view, and it was the minister of war of a certain country going through the period of the war and the armistice. Conditions were on a much smaller scale than during the period of this war. Then the war continued again and a certain statesman leaned back and said, "Thank God, we are comfortably at war again." And the position today with the master class is similar. They are between the devil and the deep sea, and to me there is a big

probability that the case will be to throw war on the Bolsheviks, war on Russia; and that there is the clarion call to the workers of the world, and I don't think that we should fail to understand that when the working class over in Russia is being oppressed by the capitalist class of the world, that is our oppression and whatever we can do to assist our fellow workers in those countries it is up to us to do it and to put our ideas into operation, which are identical with those of the workers there and not in our own capitalist class. (Loud applause).

Del. Trotter (Vancouver)—May I ask what the attitude toward the Spartacans will be?

Del. Knight (Edmonton)—National soviet, whatever may be said, it is obvious.

Del. Kavanagh (Chairman of committee)—You have passed a resolution endorsing the Spartacans and Soviet, I take it the same as this; however, it might be allowed by the terms Bolshevik and Spartacans.

Del. Trotter (Vancouver)—If it requires a motion, I move that that be done because Bro. Knight has mentioned maybe it will be necessary in the very near future to play our part and to play it as allied under a League of Nations whereby the worker will be definitely lined up against the master class and we might find ourselves lined up against our class in every country. By passing resolutions and such resolutions which have been made, every resolution has met with almost perfect unanimity, we want to place ourselves in the position that if the capitalist class attempt to declare war on Russia, and I mean the large portion of their population, the most active portion, that we deal with this enemy. (Applause).

Del. Thompson (Winnipeg) — Mr. Chairman, there is arising out of this question, which is rather conflicting with the former resolution, that is you have gone on record for a six-hour day, free speech and so forth. Now, then, that is a big thing. I venture to say it is now being in favor of soviet government, I think, as this is the big issue we might as well make it into one. The former resolution is a secondary matter when we come in favor of the soviet. I am in favor of soviet government, but don't you see we are putting something

against the fellow in connection with the six-hour day. This other, if it is real, we might take and couple the whole thing up at once.

By the Chairman—The chairman of the resolution committee has incorporated those words.

Del. Mrs. Armstrong (Winnipeg)—I would like to know if withdrawing the troops from Russia will be included in the strike vote?

Del. Kavanagh (Chairman of committee)—It is all coupled.

Del. Mrs. Armstrong—The 1st of June?

Del. Kavanagh — With the strike vote; there is no use making two bites at one cherry.

Del. Mrs. Armstrong—Mr. Chairman, while on my feet, I would like one point of privilege to ask the delegates from British Columbia if it is true that the vessel for Siberia has not been heard from as we are led to believe? I ask this in the interest of some of our membership. Some of our members have not been heard from since Christmas, that was the last word; and another thing we heard was that it took half a regiment at Christmas to put the other half on the ship for Siberia.

The mothers in our league got that word, but never have had any word since, whether the boys reached Siberia, and naturally the position where the ones had to be put on with the guns we would like to know if these boys got there or whether they got killed.

Del. Kavanagh (Vancouver)—We know the vessel arrived and discharged, but not having had any communication from Siberia, we don't know the condition in which she arrived, but I don't think, as I understand the temper of the men who went to Siberia after being a month in B.C.; I don't think they would get them to do anything. (Laughter and applause.)

Del. Moulton (Victoria) — Mr. Chairman, a point of information. When the boat arrived at Vladivostok there was a report there had been four deaths on board that vessel.

A Delegate (Unrecognized) — Mr. Chairman, I quite agree with Mrs. Armstrong as regards withdrawing troops from Russia. We have men going to Victoria and New Westminster to receive their discharge who

are asked, and some of them look at the thing as getting a trip to Siberia at the expense of the government, like when they volunteered for France. Now, there are lots of men that are returning who are not joining up for Siberia, but, as Mrs. Armstrong stated, they are put on the boats at the point of the bayonet. That is conscription by getting the men returning from France; that is enlisting them for the sole purpose to down this movement, so that we have to be on guard. But they are still enlisting, and I think it is up to this delegation to do as in Great Britain, to demand the withdrawal of those troops from Russia who are sent there for the express purpose to down the working class movement.

Del. Wells (Vancouver) — Mr. Chairman, in connection with Russia, I am satisfied the plan the Allies would adopt is the oppression of the soviet government of that country, and we must not overlook the fact, Mr. Chairman, that the Allied governments have another weapon which they can use; that is an economic blockade. If they cannot get troops to suppress the revolution, they will pass an iron band around, so far as the entry of the particular things they need in that country. It might be possible by that method they will be able to put Russia in the position that they will have to take steps to prevent that, and while looking into the Russian situation and looking into the troops proposition, their withdrawal, we must also take this feature into consideration and ask not only for the withdrawal of the troops, but also anything in the nature of an economic blockade.

Del. Hill (Vancouver) — I might state regarding shipping munitions and so forth to Vladivostok; I might state I am strongly in favor of not handling these munitions; but understand the position of Vancouver long-shoremen. We are near Seattle; it is right close to Vancouver; and in all probability they would very easily get this stuff we are handling. We understand to undertake individual action would be only a side issue.

I might state there has been propaganda between the different boards as regards taking action in refusing to handle these munitions. I might also state there was a vessel at Van-

couver yesterday, loaded with 45 tons of guns and shells, proving rather conclusively that they intend to carry on an offensive against Russia. I might state this point and would like to see it all cleared up. If the long-shoremen were assured of any support there is not the slightest doubt but they would be heartily in sympathy with anything pertaining to shipping munitions to fight the Russians.

Del. Pritchard (Vancouver) — I waived my right when Bro. Hill took his feet, but since the delegates understand the situation there is no use for me going over it. I will say, while I agree with Brother Wells, we must take and consider the proposition from the standpoint that if they fail to send troops they possibly will try some other scheme. I think that they lay awake nights scheming things for our betterment. If they fail to send troops, no doubt they will attempt an economic blockade, and we want to be on our guard. If the Allies, with all their tremendous power, fail to send troops, and they have failed, they could not blockade Russia for the simple reason a blockade against Russia would be reactive upon themselves and other countries of the world in not being able to supply them provided they established a blockade.

Furthermore, practically the world's supply of platinum comes from Russia, and everybody knows the necessity of platinum for—(unreported).

Del. Flewin (Victoria)—In reply to the sister worker in regard to the men going to Siberia, I happen to know of this on account of conducting meetings in the interest of the B.C. Federated Labor Party. They had a large number of troops for Siberia, and I happened to get in touch with lots of the boys personally from Winnipeg. When these boys were given notice they were to leave for Siberia there was a plan among them that they would refuse to go. There was one man chosen to lead them, but when he struck down one of the officers the rest didn't give him support. However, it took 23 hours to get those men aboard the ship.

Since leaving Victoria I have had one letter from a personal friend and he gives me the information he gets. He has recently received two letters,

and the casualties that were mentioned was during a storm; some of the Chinese crew, three in number. They were killed in the storm and one from a beam falling from the hatch. Those are the only casualties that happened on that ship. This is from his brother, and I may state he wrote a lengthy letter, but the best part was censored. It is very difficult to get anything through from Russia at all.

Del. Berg (Edmonton)—Mr. Chairman, to leave the resolution on the Russian situation is almost the same as doing nothing. We should be altogether tired of resolutions as done in the past; I will allow we resolved a whole lot and nothing more has been done. We passed a resolution for a general strike in case a certain brother was not released within sixty hours. Our executive did nothing, and that man was deported to the United States instead of holding him in Canada.

As regards to the Russian situation, calling a general strike wouldn't help things very much, but this six-hour one is coming off and I know it means more than six hours; right then you are going to have to do exactly as the Russian workmen did. I have information—left the country and went to Russia. They left for the express purpose of carrying on the good work for the workers of that country in that country. One hundred of them went, and when they arrived at Vladivostok they were asked to line up against the Bolsheviks. All refused and eighty of them were shot which left Canada. That is the absolute truth, because we have a letter from one out of the twenty who managed to escape. I know that is exactly what happened to them; therefore, it is up to us to take action and let us come to the same proposition as the six-hour day.

Motion, adoption of recommendation of committee regarding Resolution No. 8, on being put by the chair, was declared carried.

By the Chairman—Now it is five minutes to time of adjournment. If there is anything of a controversial nature it might possibly be as well to leave it over.

Del. Bruce (Cadomin)—I want to know when this provincial committee of five is to be elected.

By the Chairman—We have made

provision in a resolution for certain committees to handle the work of this convention. The one clause calls for a central committee of five. I wonder if it would be good business to open nominations in the few minutes which we have at our disposal; then the delegates would be better acquainted with that during the adjournment and we might get along better.

Del. McFegan (Calgary, U.M.W.A.) The delegates from the different provinces to meet separately and elect their own men?

By the Chairman—This is not the question of delegates on the provincial committees, this is the central committee of five regardless of geographical location to be elected at large to act as the central committee; that is the council, then follows those from the provinces.

Del. Lawson (Ferne, Editor District Ledger)—*I move to bring in the names of the five after dinner considering the Policy committee asked to bring the name of five, then they can talk it over during the noon hour instead of asking to bring in five suitable candidates now.*

Del. Woodriff (Victoria)—I think the Policy committee that they have laid down is elected from the floor.

I would move an amendment to the motion that the election of the committee of five be the first order of business when we meet this afternoon.

A Delegate (unrecognized) Seconded.

Del. Lawson (Ferne)—I will withdraw the motion in favor of that.

Del. Gill (Kimberley) — Seconder consents.

By the chairman—Any objection to the motion being withdrawn? So ordered.

Del. Logan (Winnipeg) — As an amendment to the motion I move we throw the meeting open for nominations and leave them open until the first order of business this afternoon.

I do that for the purpose that we will have nominations called and we will have the opportunity of knowing who those names are during adjournment, so that it would be the order to vote as the first order of business after dinner.

Del. Johnson (Winnipeg)—Seconded.

The amendment on being put to a vote was carried.

Nominations—

Pritchard, Vancouver.

Knight, Edmonton.

Wells, Vancouver, (declined).

Russell, Winnipeg.

Johns, Winnipeg.

Midgley, Vancouver.

Kavanagh, Vancouver, (declined).

Broatch, Calgary.

Tallon, Calgary, (declined).

Stevenson, Victoria, (declined).

McKenzie, Victoria.

Smitten, Calgary.

Hazeltine, Regina.

Lawson, Fernie.

Naylor, Cumberland.

A Delegate (unrecognized)—I would like to ask that those names be read.

Secretary Midgley—Pritchard, Russell, Knight, Johns, Midgley, Hazeltine, Broatch, McKenzie, Smitten, Lawson, Naylor, Kolling.

Adjournment taken at 12:00 noon until 2 p.m.

## SECOND DAY—AFTERNOON SESSION

President Tallon convened the convention at 2:06 p.m.

President Tallon (Chairman)—Now at this morning session it was the sense of the meeting that we proceed with the election of the central committee to follow up in the work as outlined in this convention. Nominations were called for and we have some fourteen possibly, nominations, and nominations are still open. Now the delegates possibly have in mind some individual whom they quite probably consider would become elected and we are open for nominations, but the chair would point out it would serve no good purpose for each of us to nominate our own friends who are known to us. I don't want to attempt to tell you what to do in the matter, but the fact remains nevertheless.

Del. Moulton (Victoria)—One nomination I wish to make, Mr. Chairman, that is the delegate from the Vancouver Boilermakers, namely Tom Grogan.

Kolling declines nomination.

Del. Russell (Winnipeg)—I wish

my name withdrawn, Mr. Chairman

A point of information, Mr. Chairman. Is it possible to nominate to this central committee a person that isn't present at the convention?

By the Chairman—That has not been decided. I take it, up until it is, it is not necessary to be a man from this convention. One sufficiently known in the labor movement might pass.

A delegate (unrecognized)—Under those conditions, Mr. Chairman, I would like to nominate Bro. Rees.

By the Chairman—Bro. Rees is a member of this conference, although not present. However, I do not think it is good policy to nominate anyone not on the floor, and it is not good policy to nominate anyone, who, by accepting nomination upon this committee, would get in bad with his employer; I mean the international organization to be on the committee of five of this organization.

A delegate (unrecognized)—I move that nominations now close.

By the Chairman—The nominations will be closed by the chair when no further nominations are made.

Does the Brother insist that Brother Rees' name be added to this list?

A Delegate (unrecognized)—Yes, Mr. President.

By the Chairman—I will ask the convention to decide the point, just on the question of Bro. Rees and the question regarding whether anyone should be nominated who is not here present. I would like an expression on that.

Del. Cottrell (Vancouver) — Does the delegate who has nominated Bro. Rees know whether Bro. Rees would be willing to act on that committee?

By the Chairman—I take it not. We did not have that legislation through.

Del. Atkinson (Carbondale, Mineworkers)—Has Bro. Rees any credentials to this convention?

By the Chairman—I ask for an expression of opinion by the convention. I think that is necessary.

Del. Boothman (Calgary)—*I move no nominations be received except the nominees are from the floor of this conference.*

Del. Hubble (Vancouver) — Seconded.

By the Chairman— It has been regularly moved and seconded that

no nominations be accepted except nominees from the floor of this convention.

Del. Broatch (Calgary)—That is not what I understood the motion.

By the Chairman—That the nominees must be present here, with all the privileges of the convention, with seat and vote.

Del. Broatch (Calgary)—The point I take, Mr. Chairman, the motion didn't say "present." I would like to have added, "unless the delegate has given his previous consent to act." I am quite agreed with the motion.

Del. Hubble (Vancouver)—I would like to say the motion provides for that.

Del. Broatch (Calgary)—In what way?

Del. Hubble (Vancouver)—In this way; unless the delegate nominated here on this floor is not present, how can you get that consent?

By the Chairman—We will not allow cross-floor debate.

Del. Broatch (Calgary)—I make an amendment to the motion, that this be added to the motion:

"That any delegate be eligible for election who is an accredited delegate, the delegate presenting the name of the nominee having the consent of that delegate to act in that capacity prior to the nomination."

A Delegate (Unrecognized)—That is a substitute motion.

Del. Kavanagh (Vancouver)—This morning we passed resolutions and came to certain conclusions, so that anybody present yesterday who might have given consent to become a candidate might not have done so had they been present when these resolutions were passed. I don't think consent given yesterday or any time should be sufficient to accept nomination for this convention.

By the Chairman—The question before the house is the motion as put.

The motion, on being put to a vote, was declared carried.

By the Chairman—Nominees must be present at this meeting and must be accredited delegates with all powers as such. In that case, the name of Bro. Lawson will have to be excluded as a nominee, as Bro. Lawson was given the floor, but not with a vote.

Editor Lawson's name was deleted from the list of candidates.

Del. Naylor (Cumberland, Mine Workers)—Mr. Chairman, there is a further little bit of business in line with this. I am quite satisfied to nominate anybody, but it seems to me that there is no man who should be entitled to run for office in this convention unless he is strongly in favor of industrial organization. I mean by this that our efforts may be frustrated by putting men on that executive board or central committee that are opposed to the "One Big Union" proposition, and I want to draw this point to the members of this convention. I think we should have something in my estimation, we should understand and have a record from every man that he is in favor and willing and anxious to work for that "One Big Union" to the limit without any limitations at all.

By the Chairman—I didn't want to call the brother to order, but had any objection been taken I would have construed this to be an election speech. There can be no restrictions at all, because anyone who is present as an accredited delegate is eligible for nomination and will be voted on. The only question, Brother Naylor wanted to bring out so that the members in voting for the candidates would know where they stand on the question; whether they were going to propagate the new idea; but we cannot draw any distinction, any distinguishing line who are eligible or not.

Del. Steadman (Victoria) — Mr. Chairman, I would like to move that the nominees state whether they are in favor of this proposition or not. (Laughter.)

By the Chairman—If there are no other nominations I declare nominations closed, and I think it would be well, before voting, to have the nominees at least rise, with the privilege if they so desire of stating their position, but they should at least rise so they will become known.

Del. Gardiner (Victoria)—I would like to offer a motion: That the nominees be asked to take the floor for two or three minutes and state what particular position they take.

Del. Ainger (Vancouver)—Seconded.



By the Chairman—It has been moved and seconded the candidates be asked to state their position in respect to policy outlined by this convention.

Del. Miller (Winnipeg, Plasterers)—I don't see why we should go wrong. We say we are electors as I see it of this Industrial Unionism resolution, and if these men had the courage of their convictions they should have taken that stand then yesterday; if they had the courage of their convictions. Yesterday I looked around to see if there were any hands against the motion, so why waste time after the conference was unanimous?

By the Chairman—We are liable to lose more time in discussing this than by allowing the candidates to express their opinions.

Del. Gardiner (Victoria)—Mr. Chairman, as mover of the motion, I had a reason for moving it or I wouldn't have done so. As I went to lunch I happened to run into a little group of men on the street corner, and by the talk I heard I found this fact: Although the resolution passed unanimously there are certain individuals, the number I do not know or the particular individuals I do not know, but there is a certain section in this convention that intend to go back and buck this proposition as as soon as they go away from here, but they didn't have the guts to preach it on the floor of this convention. (Applause).

The motion to permit candidates to state their position in respect to policy of the organization, on a vote was carried.

By the Chairman—I would ask Delegate Logan, Winnipeg—

A Delegate (unrecognized)—Mr. Chairman, I think it a good suggestion for the secretary now to read the names of the full list of nominees so that if any delegate wishes to resign he will have the privilege of so doing.

By the Chairman—He will. Delegate Logan, Winnipeg; Delegate J. Russell, Calgary, and Delegate Haslett, Vancouver, will be appointed to act as tellers for the election.

There being no objection, it is so ordered.

The names have been boiled down

and I think maybe read over without loss of time.

A Delegate (Unrecognized) — Is there any time limit on the speeches?

By the Chairman—The brother desired the names of the nominees read. Secretary Midgley — Pritchard, Vancouver; Knight, Edmonton; Johns, Winnipeg; Midgley, Vancouver; Hazeltine, Regina; Broatch, Calgary; Smitten, Calgary; Naylor, Cumberland; Grogan, Ireland, I mean Vancouver.

By the Chairman—We will ask the nominees to make themselves known to this convention.

Secretary Midgley—Pritchard Vancouver.

Del. Pritchard (Vancouver) — Mr. Chairman and fellow delegates—

Voices—Platform, platform.

Del. Pritchard—They can hear me from here. Personally I think it is a lot of tripe to ask for this when they know perfectly well where I stand as the mover of the bombshell that was thrown in the early stages of the B. C. Federation Convention. They know what Pritchard stands for, and those people from B.C. have known where Pritchard and what he stood for some time ago. There is no use in my making a speech, and telling you that I am running as a candidate against the late lamented Mr. Christ. (Applause and laughter.)

Secretary Midgley — Knight (Edmonton) — Mr. Chairman, I don't think it is necessary to state my position. I think the convention knows by my actions here. (Applause.)

Secretary Midgley — Johns, Winnipeg.

Del. Johns, Winnipeg — Mr. Chairman, I stated my position before as a supporter of the resolution. (Applause.)

Secretary Midgley — Midgley, Vancouver. If the delegates don't know my attitude, I suggest they don't vote for me. (Applause.)

Secretary Midgley—Hazeltine, Regina.

Del. Hazeltine—Mr. Chairman, seeing I am one of the majority for this One Big Union, I take it, I have never voted for anything I didn't want. That is all I am going to say. (Applause.)

Secretary Midgley—Broatch, Calgary.

Del. Broatch (Calgary) — I am heartily in favor of the One Big Union and have been all my life. I am not asking for any votes, though. (Applause and laughter.)

Secretary Midgley — Smitten, Calgary.

Del. Smitten (Calgary) — Delegate Broatch has expressed my sentiments.

Secretary Midgley — Naylor, Cumberland.

Del. Naylor (Cumberland, Mine-workers). — I am willing to let the convention judge that point.

Secretary Midgley — Grogan, Vancouver.

Del. Grogan (Vancouver). (Loud applause and laughter). — Fellow workers I realize that capitalism is rotten, and also it will have to be as with a well when the water is rotten. I realize you can't make the well pure by whitewashing the handle of the pump outside. I further realize that capitalism cannot be reformed, but can be destroyed, and we have got the organization to destroy it. (Loud applause.)

Tellers distributed the ballots.

By the Chairman — I suppose as there are nine nominations, five to be elected the procedure, I take it, will be that each delegate is expected to vote five names on his ballot. I take it, it is not compulsory, but to be fair and not exercise the plumping system, each delegate should vote five names. If not given a clear majority, the low members may be dropped on the first ballot. I think that will be the system.

A Delegate (unrecognized) — I would like to make a suggestion that a board and all the delegates be on it, then we would know who they are.

By the Chairman — That will be done. While the ballots are being distributed, the chairman of the Credential committee has a further report to make.

#### *Supplementary Report Credential Committee*

Del. Smitten (chairman of committee) — Your committee has received credentials from the Brotherhood of Railway Clerks, Freight Handlers, Station Employees and Storemen, Winnipeg, Man., for Bro. A. H. Morse.

Also from the Machinists' Helpers, No. 877, Calgary, Alta., for Bro. G. A. Tullock.

These credentials are all in proper order and we recommend the delegates be seated with vote in this convention. I move the adoption.

Del. Kermode (Vancouver), seconded.

The motion, adoption of recommendation, on vote, carried.

By the Chairman — I would ask the brothers to maintain as good order as possible.

Del. Miller (Chairman Ways and Means committee) — Mr. Chairman, we have certain items and there is only one source of revenue, namely, the generosity of the delegates. There is an item here which I believe, that is the printed proceedings which is suggested. I would like the conference to state what mode it is desired to adopt with regard to the distribution of the result of the debates here, so that the movement will become known; so that the membership will get to know it.

By the Chairman — The chairman of the Ways and Means Committee wants to know the pleasure of the convention in respect to distributing the information or the minutes or the stenographic report or whatever you see fit, of this meeting.

We went into this to some extent and it seems that it is almost a prohibitive proposition to print and distribute a stenographic report of this convention. There will be that report and that report will be submitted, possibly three to five copies, possibly, to the central committee and may be each provincial committee. There is the proposition for a distribution of it as a whole, which is a large proposition, or the proposition of having the central committee take from the minutes certain parts and have that printed. If there is any suggestion as to propagating the idea, we will receive it now.

Secretary Midgley — Mr. Chairman, I would suggest that the question of printing and issuing the convention proceedings be left in the hands of the committee; be referred to the central committee, who will have the propaganda to be got out. They will be going through and compiling from the verbatim report, such vital parts and issue the proceedings of the convention and look after the distribution of same.

I move the matter be left in the

hands of the central executive committee.

Del. McMurphy (New Westminster), seconded.

The motion on being put to a vote by the chair, was carried.

Del. Miller (chairman of Ways and Means committee)—The committee on Ways and Means will meet immediately after the conference and we will be ready to complete our report the first thing in the morning.

By the Chairman—Is there any delegate who has not voted?

I declare the election closed and the tellers will collect the ballots. For the information of the delegates and the tellers, I take it you desire the successful candidates must have a clear majority vote. If not on the first ballot, those members will be dropped and another ballot taken.

Delegate Johns what was in the mind of the committee with respect to the provincial elected councils? Some time will be required to ascertain the result of the election and while we are waiting we might utilize the time by a general discussion.

Del. Johns (chairman of Policy committee)—Mr. Chairman, I wish to state, what was in the minds of the committee was in electing that committee each section of delegates would get together and elect that committee from the delegates here present; that was the method we thought could be carried out.

By the Chairman—That would not be possible until a recess or after adjournment.

Del. Johns (chairman of committee)—That would be the delegates from Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba and so on, would elect those committees.

Del. Davis (Winnipeg)—Would a motion be in order to suspend the rules and the different sections get together and elect five individuals?

By the Chairman—Yes.

Del. Trotter (Vancouver) — Mr. Chairman; inasmuch as the British Columbia delegates have already decided that policy by electing their executive board, I would presume they could decide to elect the executive committees; we feel that should be the position as was done by the British Columbia convention.

By the Chairman—Inasmuch as the British Columbia delegation is possibly the larger—

Secretary Midgley— Alberta.

Del. Tullock (Calgary) — I would second the motion presented by the Brother over there.

By the Chairman—The motion is, when the ballot is taken, that this convention adjourn for, I take it, fifteen minutes, for the purpose of the delegates from the different provinces getting together to bring in their provincial committees. Is there anything on the question.

Del. Sinclair (Winnipeg) — Mr. Chairman, it might conflict with these members elected; might conflict with the elections of officers we are going to elect at the present time, possibly, it might be better after the election is declared.

Del. Seal (Winnipeg)—Mr. Chairman, I would suggest immediately after the adjournment of this session these delegates could get together and be able to elect their committees and have the delegates elected to be put before this convention tomorrow morning.

I move, Mr. Chairman, that the naming of the provincial boards be the first order of business tomorrow morning.

Del. Hubble (Vancouver), seconded.

The Seal-Hubble amendment, on being put to a vote was declared carried.

By the Chairman—The amendment disposes of the motion and I would ask the provinces to bear that in mind. If there is any one in the hall who has not voted, so state.

Del. Turner (Winnipeg)—The delegate from the Railway Clerks has no ballot. (Supplied by tellers)

Del. Aldrich (Winnipeg) — Mr. Chairman, I would like to make a suggestion, who would appoint these bunches to get together?

Del. Bruce (Cadomin, Mineworkers)—Mr. Chairman, would the members of the executive committee be eligible for the provincial council?

By the Chairman—On the central committee?

Del. Bruce (Cadomin)—Yes

By the Chairman—The question has been raised regarding these elected on the central committee; would they be eligible to act on the provincial committee.

Voices—No, No.

By the Chairman—I take it you have enough to go around, and we

can secure others than those on the central committee, on the provincial committees.

The chair will announce convenors for the delegates from each province, later.

Del. Hooley (Calgary)—Mr. Chairman, is it the intention to go ahead with the election of the provincial boards?

By the Chairman—That is the matter before the house at the present time, the election of the central committee, and the delegates from the provinces will bring that matter up tomorrow morning.

If all the delegates have voted I will declare the election closed and the committee will proceed to count the ballots. While the election has been closed and the tellers are counting the ballots, I was going to ask the chairman of the resolution committee to continue the report of that committee, but if there is anything special; any special point we can take it up now.

Del. Miller (chairman Ways and Means committee) — Mr. Chairman, we know some of the delegates are going away tonight, and my sole purpose in rising at this time, is to put this before the house. We figure it will require about a dollar apiece for the expenses. We have not completed our report but we think that will pretty well cover it, and I don't want any delegate to run away without paying the dollar as we need it.

By the Chairman—I want the convention to decide this point. It has been suggested to the chair that the tellers call out as they are counting. Of course that being the case we cannot proceed with any other matter. The chair wishes the convention to decide this point—if it is the desire to call out the names by the tellers as they count them.

Voices—Yes, yes.

Voices—No, no.

A delegate (unrecognized)—I think we should go ahead with the regular business, and I would move a motion that the tellers proceed with the counting of the ballots.

Del. Bruce (Cadomin Mineworkers), seconded.

By the Chairman it has been moved and seconded the tellers proceed, and that we continue the regular business of the convention.

Del. Kavanagh (Vancouver) — I think a check should be kept on their count. They are only human individuals and they have to call five names, so that I think the secretary and others should check the ballot as called.

By the Chairman—All in favor of the motion to leave the counting of the ballot absolutely in the hands of the tellers and secretary, please signify in the usual manner. The amendment is lost. The tellers will proceed with the election and announce each name.

After tabulation of ballot:

Secretary Midgley, reading result of election:

Pritchard, Vancouver, 210; Knight, Edmonton, 176; Johns, Winnipeg 201; Midgley, Vancouver, 161; Hazel-tine, Regina, 69; Broatch, Calgary, 62; Smitten, Calgary, 62; Naylor, Cumberland, 118; Grogan, Vancouver, 102.

Report of tellers, 235 ballots cast.

By the Chairman—Half of that being 118, that means you have elected a complete slate—Pritchard, Knight, Johns, Midgley and Naylor are the candidates elected. (Loud applause).

I take it there is no question on the election, and that the candidates as named are the central committee who have to carry out the work of this convention.

Now just before going into that election there was some talk of finances required immediately which was deferred until after the election. Are you going to determine that at this time?

A Delegate (unrecognized) — The Ways and Means committee are out.

A Delegate (unrecognized)—They are downstairs.

By the Chairman—In that case, the chairman of the Resolution committee will be asked to proceed with the report of that committee.

Del. Kavanagh (Chairman of committee)—Resolution No. 9—(Copy of telegram)—Ottawa, Ont., March 10, 1919—Victor Midgley, Secy. Western conference, Calgary—Western Labor News prints on March 7th supposed report of my statements at Montreal Feb. 20th. I believe this was not previously published and my correction of report of Montreal papers issued in Montreal Labor World ignored purposely to poison minds of dele-

gates to your convention too late to mail full statement to you, so have written Labor News to publish same. Make known to your delegates my denial of scurrilous statements and untrue insinuations in Labor News article. (Signed) Tom Moore, president.

Recommendation of committee—The committee have gone into the foregoing wire from Tom Moore to the secretary regarding statements appearing in the Western Labor News, as to utterances which he was supposed to have stated at a banquet at which he was the honored guest of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association. (Laughter). The committee hold the view that inasmuch as the press is open to him to deny those statements that he can take that course in the eyes of the membership of this movement. I move accordingly.

Del. Allman (Vancouver), seconded.

Motion, adoption recommendation, on being put by the chair, was carried.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Resolution No. 10 (Brule Local, U.M.W.A., Alta., No. 1054)—Whereas the Trades and Labor council of Lethbridge has passed a resolution urging the government to deport all unnaturalized alien enemies, be it resolved that the interprovincial congress denounce the action of the aforementioned body as being not in conformity with union principles and whereas the Federal Government has disfranchised citizens of alien enemy origin thereby displaying its distrust in them and eliminating all distinction as to naturalized and unnaturalized alien enemies, and has also not fulfilled the many promises given these aliens before their arrival in Canada, and where the majority of said alien enemies have been true to labor's cause at all times, be it therefore resolved that this congress declares all organized alien enemies worthy of protection of organized labor, and that it demands of the government to deport only such alien enemies as wish to be deported, naturalized or unnaturalized and that they be given free transportation.

Recommendation of committee—That resolution is covering the alien question dealt with this morning. The

first portion dealing with the action of the Trades and Labor council at Lethbridge brings the following recommendation:

*Resolved that it is the opinion of this conference that action by central bodies along the lines contained in the preamble is not in the best interest of the working class. I move the adoption.*

Del. McKenzie (Vancouver), seconded.

Del. McNabb (Lethbridge)—In view of the fact that this has become before the convention, Mr. Chairman and delegates which personally I am very pleased to see it and I am also glad to see our friends from Brule have awakened to the sense of their duty and brought it before this western convention. They had the opportunity before this if they had liked. This matter could have come up long before; it could have come up at the time.

However, there is always something that leads up to action and that is the point I wish to take up this morning. I think most of the trades unions connected with the Lethbridge central body, will all agree pretty much along the lines expressed here, but as I said something led up to it. The time the council took action, we had a communication, not only from the Great War Veterans' Association, but we had a delegation, and it is a well known fact that they have been endeavoring to deport alien enemies from the country. Lethbridge is a little more peculiarly situated than many parts of the province, as we have composed in our organization, namely the miners, and that organization is connected with the Trades council, they have somewhere in the neighborhood of between sixty and seventy per cent. of what they understand as the foreign element.

What led the council to take action, was they were prepared and stood on record for the protection of naturalized citizens, namely foreigners, although they may have been ill-advised at the time. They did their duty they thought, and I want to place the Lethbridge Trades and Labor Council on proper record as I happen to be the president of that body; I think if it had not been for the action of the Great War Veterans Association trying to cre-

ate dissention among the ranks of labor at that time there wouldn't have been any action along the lines brought in from Brule, and I think—I have been sixteen years in that particular part of this province, and I want to say we have as good a bunch of trade unionists around the Lethbridge district as you will find anywhere in the province of Alberta, and I think when I say that I could also prove it, and I don't want any misapprehension at this time in this convention.

If it shows, this resolution brought in, the Trades council of Lethbridge is opposed to the alien enemy of the country, it is nothing of the kind. They took action, probably ill-advised, for the reason they wanted to protect the naturalized citizens that they had in the organization.

Motion, adoption of recommendation, on being put by the chair, was carried.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Resolution No. 11—(Brule Local, Alta., U.M.W.A., No. 1054)—Whereas economic and political conditions are getting unbearable for the worker, and whereas the obstinacy or bullheadedness of capitalism in dealing with the working class, and the attitude taken by the national and international trades union leaders, and the hopelessness of the heretofore practised sectional strikes, forces the worker to prepare himself for more and bigger action, on the industrial field; the field alone which will assure him industrial and political supremacy. Be it therefore resolved that the Western Interprovincial congress shall immediately organize a general strike, and a permanent and efficient industrial organization, based upon class lines of the four provinces as one department of a world organization.

Recommendation of committee—This resolution is already covered by industrial resolution already adopted by the convention and I move accordingly.

The majority of these resolutions are covered and I don't think a motion is necessary. In order that the delegates will have the satisfaction of knowing that their particular resolutions were not forgotten by the convention or ditched in the process of

the study of them, I am presenting them in this manner.

By the Chairman—This resolution has been adequately taken care of by previous action of this convention.

There being no objection the chair ordered the recommendation adopted.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Resolution No. 12—(Amal. Postal Workers, Calgary)—Whereas a weekly half holiday is granted by the government in nearly all its departments and whereas postal workers have petitioned the government at various times to extend the weekly half holiday to their department, without avail. Therefore it is resolved that this congress of labor assembled in the city of Calgary calls upon the government to immediately grant to all postal office employees one half holiday per week throughout the year.

Recommendation of committee—Your committee considers this is covered by platform adopted by the convention. I move the adoption.

Del. Logan (Winnipeg), seconded. Motion, adoption recommendation, on being put by the chair, was carried.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Resolution No. 13—(Amal. Postal Workers, Calgary)—Whereas the Dominion Trade Congress has seen fit to deny to the Amalgamated Postal Workers a charter and whereas local trades councils and federations of labor have granted affiliation to this organization:

Be it resolved that this congress of labor request that the Dominion Trade Congress grant the request of the Amalgamated Postal Workers for a charter together with full rights of affiliation.

Recommendation of committee—Covered by industrial resolution as adopted by convention. I move the adoption.

Del. Lister (Winnipeg), seconded. Motion, adoption recommendation, on being put by the chair, was carried.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Resolution No. 14—(Federal Labor Union No. 49, Edmonton)—Whereas May Day as international Labor day was initiated by the working class, and signifies our common aim, "The World for the Workers,"

Therefore be it resolved that this conference places itself on record as repudiating the September Labor day granted by our masters and joins with our European comrades in celebrating our international solidarity on May 1st.

Recommendation of committee — *The committee considers in view of the fact that it has been the intention to propagate action for June 1st, that this matter be laid over.* I move the adoption.

Del. Woodriff (Victoria), seconded.

Motion, adoption recommendation, on being put by the chair, was carried.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee) — Resolution No. 15 — (Hillcrest Local, Alta., No. 1058, U.M.W. A.) — Owing to the injustice that is being put forth by oppression connected with or without laws in deducting from the wage earners sums that may be due and sums that are not due, and as the wage earner fully realizes that it costs more to try and recover such, he suffers the loss.

Whereby laws are continually being enacted and put forth whereby a person's wages can be deducted at any and all times with a moment's notice:

Whereby our liberties are being taken away from us:

Therefore be it resolved that we petition our governments to amend such laws so as to make it that wages shall have prior rights and that no deductions shall be made therefrom only by an order from the wage earner.

(P.S.) — All garnishees and taxes.

Recommendation of committee — In view of former action taken by this convention your committee recommends this be laid on the table. I move the adoption.

Del. Bardsley (Victoria), seconded.

Motion, adoption recommendation, on being put by the chair, was carried.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee) — Resolution No. 16 — (Women's Labor League, Winnipeg) — We the delegates of the Women's Labor League ask that this conference devise ways and means of appointing a woman organizer for Western Canada, to organize the women workers and thereby educating them along class conscious lines for the future

welfare of the workers of Canada as a whole.

Recommendation of committee — *Covered by industrial policy and your committee considers industrial policy is not a sex question but a class question.* (Applause). I move the adoption.

Del. McKenzie (Vancouver), seconded.

Motion, adoption recommendation, on being put by the chair, was carried.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee) — Resolution No. 17 — (Cardiff Local, Alta., No. 4096, U.M.W.A.) — Be it resolved that the different provincial government employment bureaux be asked to co-operate with the local unions in the supply and demand of labor.

Recommendation of committee — This is not within the jurisdiction of this convention and should be dealt with by local organizations owing to the fact that these particular institutions differ in various parts of the country. I move the matter be laid on the table.

Del. Bardsley (Victoria), seconded.

By the Chairman — I take it in laying on the table that will be for the disposal of the central committee when the proper time comes for action to be taken.

Motion, adoption recommendation, on being put by the chair, was carried.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee) — Resolution No. 18 — (Cardiff Local, Alta., No. 4076, U.M.W.A.) — That in all resolutions calling for the release of political prisoners the words military prisoners also be added.

Recommendation of committee — That has been covered by previous resolution on the question, Mr. Chairman. I move the adoption.

Del. Hill (Vancouver), seconded.

Motion, adoption recommendation, on being put by the chair, was carried.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee) — Resolution No. 19 — (Edmonton Trades and Labor Council) — Resolved that this the Edmonton Trades and Labor Council place itself on record as being opposed to the Daylight Saving scheme and further we request the interprovincial conference

of labor to actively oppose the introduction of this measure.

Recommendation of committee—The committee recommend to lay this on the table inasmuch as if the workers desire to alter the hours of labor. It is up to them to do so. I move the adoption.

Del. Logan (Winnipeg), seconded. Motion, adoption recommendation, on being put by the chair, was carried.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Resolution No. 20—(Alberta Federation of Labor)—Whereas the War Times Election act is one of the most pernicious measures ever foisted on this, or any other country;

Therefore be it resolved that we demand the repeal of this measure, substituting therefor an entirely new act providing for the election of representatives by the proportional representation system of voting, with a further provision for adult suffrage throughout Canada.

Recommendation of committee—*Committee recommend resolution be tabled to come under the observation of the central committee.* I move the adoption.

Del. Steadman (Vancouver), seconded.

Motion, adoption recommendation, on being put by the chair, was carried.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Resolution No. 21—(Alberta Federation of Labor)—(Reconstruction) — (Objective) — That modern production of wealth being a social process requiring the collective labor of the working classes to put in operation, it therefore follows that if labor is to permanently better its conditions it must achieve the social ownership and control of these means of production and distribution which are necessary to the wellbeing of society as a whole.

(Industrial) — By establishing a national minima, comprising as it does health, subsistence, education, housing, sufficiency and security of income and insurance. By democratic control of industry.

Educational)—To organize the nation's educational institutions so that the function of education will be to prepare us for a complete living. By inculcating a new concept of life into our educational institutions. By placing secondary education within the

reach of all. By widening the scope of the university making it an institution for collecting and disseminating everything educational.

(Political) — To form a political party with the object in view of uniting labor and kindred organizations into a homogenous political party. Believing that a united political labor party is a necessary adjunct to the development of our industrial organizations and to the attainment of our national ideals.

Recommendation of committee—The committee considers the objectives as stated is contained in the aims and objects of this association and considers further talk about putting something in operation before you get anything, is useless. I move that this be laid on the table.

Del. Laundry (Victoria), seconded.

Del. Broatch (Calgary)—Mr. Chairman, I want to speak to the latter part; in fact to the whole part of this resolution. I am not as yet convinced that any act we have taken has practically covered this resolution. In the first place, the aims have been covered with the resolution, and I will not go into that. I will only deal with the political part of the resolution before the house.

We have gone on record in this convention that we are opposed to lobbying for any legislation we want, but I do not know of any record in this house since we opened the doors, that has said we will not take any action along political lines, and I hope this convention will not take that action. To my mind political action, if we take an action of that kind we will concentrate our mind and eye on one point and one state which will not carry out the resolution which we are trying to obtain. The fact of organizing an organization as we anticipate doing, and bringing all workers within the fold of that organization, will not eliminate the fact that law will still exist, and the chambers where law is made will still be a part of our social life.

In order that we should carry out the full extent, we will have to lend our efforts to the other feature of that state of society. To my mind we are only storming the citadel of the enemy from one angle, and that angle materially affects ourselves. When we call a general strike under



this form of organization we disrupt the means of production and distribution whereby we leave the other man holding the strings of the bag; having control of what is already produced. He has the advantage of us in that way. That I believe no delegate on the floor of this convention will offer contrary remarks.

A delegate (unrecognized) — Oh! yes, lots of them.

By the Chairman—Delegate Broatch has the floor; the time limit has not expired.

Del. Broatch—You think so. We have changed the line of policy and set another platform. We have declared we are out for the destruction of production by profit and competitive system. If we elect representatives on that platform; on that basis, and send them to the houses of parliament, it will be their aim to destroy that system. Through that means, I maintain that is one of the most effectual means of destroying this system, and without doing it you are only half doing the job. In fact past experience I have had points in that direction.

If we do not take this stand and work both ends and endeavor to pull down the structure itself; strike where there are strong points in the land of the enemies, I don't believe that we will attain the end as rapidly as if we do storm the enemy at both ends. In that way we probably will be able some time I hope, to move this system off the map and inaugurate a system for the benefit of humanity, and place humanity on a higher plane of life. But I don't believe and am yet to be convinced that the action you propose to take—striking alone, will ever give you that end.

I wish to see the latter part of the resolution endorsed and would move accordingly.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Mr. Chairman the majority of the committee concurred in the recommendation of the committee most of them holding the opinion I do, that any time the workers imagine they can emancipate themselves merely through the gas houses of this or any country, they have another think coming. (Applause.)

What the workers must take is by power and politics is not carried on in the parliament houses but in

the country prior to election. In view of the experience of the past four years, and in view of the experience of the past year. We have sent so-called representatives to be amused or to become sources of amusement of those in power. It behooves us to take what is meant by political action. We must understand political action; what political action is. Political action comes through a political system and a political system is a class or slave system. Politics only exist where there are classes, and any act taken by a class in defence of its interests is political action. Therefore you can't define any particular action as political, but any action mark you, any action, used to control political power in order to utilize it for the benefit of that class; that is political action, and it matters not what method it takes.

We have come to understand that this parliamentary system is generally choked with bureaucratic officials, that it is impossible, even with a majority in the house, to get what you desire put into operation. We know for a fact. We have had so-called labor representatives placed in the cabinet of many administrations, all they have been used was as tools to deceive the worker. (Applause). You know that and consequently know this first act of a political party of the working class is not to seek to put men in the parliament houses, but to get out and educate the working class so it will know what to do for itself without being told.

By the Chairman—I didn't get the seconder to the amendment. Just state the amendment again; is it the deletion of the latter part of the recommendation?

Del. Broatch (Calgary)—I wish the latter part dealing with political action, endorsed by this convention.

Del. Hooley (Calgary) — Political action, and we labor men in Calgary believe we are in the majority, therefore we have the power, and I take it if we want the power to control we can take that power; as Bro. Broatch says, by striking at both ends. Strikes have been a failure and may yet be failures but organizing on political lines we have a chance both ways to work. I take it, we agree as labor men, we have the majority vote, therefore we have the

power and I would say Brother Broatch's amendment should be put to the meeting and I think we should work both politically and industrially.

By the Chairman — I take the recommendation of the committee to lay on the table is for action of the central committee.

The amendment wants this convention to endorse political action on the part of the wage workers and homogeneous organization.

Del. Pritchard (Vancouver) — Mr. Chairman, a question. You might supply the answer if you can. Is it not a fact that already there is in existence in Manitoba, in Alberta, and in British Columbia, a so-called Political Labor Party?

By the Chairman — I understand there is a branch of the Dominion Labor Party in the provinces named.

Del. Pritchard (Vancouver) — And membership open to anyone, at least it is in Vancouver. All you have to do is to pay a dollar — "What's the use of worrying."

Del. McQuoid (Calgary) — Mr. Chairman and Brothers, heretofore I have extended to each and every Brother the charity of my silence but would like to ask the Brothers regarding political action; was it not through political action the men of England got the eight-hour day, and was it not through political action the men of America got the eight-hour day?

Del. Trotter (Vancouver) — I am not afraid to accept that but in regard to the party Bro. Pritchard referred to, it is not exactly true that anybody who chooses to pay one dollar can join. He must also subscribe to the very principles that is founded the society to which he belongs. Furthermore, I am not concerned in the slightest as a member of that political party, passing such resolutions or amendment as here proposed because I believe the attitude of the workers, is to proceed as it is and if there is anything afterwards, of anything that the interpreters disbelieve will be quite sufficient. So far as I am concerned I would propose to leave it to the workers to use their own judgment as to what to do regarding political action.

By the Chairman — The Broatch amendment is that the resolution be laid on the table for the guidance of

the central committee, but if presented to the committee this convention goes on record as instructing future action that they be in favor of political action by the wage-workers and kindred organizations.

Del Knight (Edmonton) — Mr. Chairman, I can't quite understand it that way. It is laid over to a committee and yet the policy of the committee that brought that, from the chairman, from what he said I would judge that the only thing to do was to ditch it. What is the use of laying on the table for a committee to consider when the convention is here and expresses itself on resolutions of such a nature. Personally I don't think the idea should be tabled. The whole convention from the time it opened to the present time has been to throw such stuff as that into the discard; it appears that way and the best thing is not to table it but to have it deliberately moved and seconded into the waste paper basket.

By the Chairman — But as I see the position it is this. The chairman of the Resolution committee has made a motion to table as the resolution included some subject matter that might act as a guidance or be turned over to the central committee. If it is the thought of this convention along the lines laid down that will be taken and used as a guidance.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee) — Mr. Chairman, the preamble, the objective, is in accord with what we have started to form here and while the committee had no specific recommendation, feeling we did not have the power there was no use bothering, therefore not wishing to deal with the question and take up the time of the convention they recommend it be laid on the table. They neither concur or non-concur but simply dispose of it by laying it on the table and if the central committee possess the intelligence we presume they have they will not bother with any matter outside the peculiar form of this organization.

Del. Allman (Vancouver) — Mr. Chairman, speaking for the latter part of that resolution, I am not quite as old in age as some of the delegates but I have seen a little part of the Canadian continent and the United States over here; the place where you get democracy by the policeman's

club. I have yet to see in my short time of life where the workers have got anything by political action or gas house. Anything they got was through their economic condition and strikes prove that. In 1911 the fellows who fought for the eight hour day, the lumber association would not have given the eight hour day if those fellows had not been like those who are in Leavenworth at present, and I am opposed to any ballot or gas house for to go to.

Del. Sinclair (Vancouver) — Do I understand there is no political action at all?

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Not this convention; not within the scope of this conference, it is purely an industrial organization founded along industrial lines. Either going in favor or going against is not within the scope of this conference and as such we lay it on the table; is our duty at this moment.

Del. Sinclair (Vancouver) — If it comes to elect representatives of our own calibre at all there will have to be political action taken some time sooner or later and it would be through the workmen, it doesn't matter how it comes, it has got to come some time and until we have men of our own calibre, you will never get what you want; never will.

Now what I want you to be clear on is this, practically at no time have labor men been united for to take political action.

By the Chairman—That matter has not been decided or stated definitely by this convention.

Del. Grogan (Vancouver)—There is a definition of law—Under the feudal system things were decided by custom. Under the feudal system they ruled with swords, nevertheless we find the clans were strong when attacked, but when the development of private property, that is development of private property, concentration of wealth the state comes assured; as found with the development of private property and also with the development of the state, the mode of life has flown from the industrial districts, as you might term representation flows from geographical boundaries, and naturally within geographical boundaries you find proletarians and all kinds of parasites, and seeing the proletarian must keep the

parasite, naturally the parasite owns property and has greater representation.

Now with the old form of craft organization it was organized on the identity of the wolf and the lamb, and no matter how much the wolf fleeced the lamb, the lamb would still holler, "I have not been fleeced enough." In order that the fleecing might be carried on a little more successfully, when the ruling class seemed to be losing they put labor skates in the field in the form of such as Kier Hardie that was elected to the British House of Commons; many don't think so though. We have another in the United States; after he did four years in gaol, he came out in 1899 and founded the Government Ownership party, and if you want to know what that is just commit an offence and you will find yourself in a government-owned penitentiary. Now we have had labor skates, labor fakers, broken down preachers, broken down lawyers, and school teachers, and pimps of every description, but when they couldn't get a living along with their own class they could appeal to the supine slave, who didn't know enough to dig a muscle out of his head so far as constitutional rights, and that is how it is. Did you ever hear them appeal you elect me and I will give you an "apple" and after the election I generally find all you got was the peelings. (Laughter).

Now any form of labor organization has had to have laws. In 1892 in England, Fenwick, Wilson and Burke were in County Durham, England, in that county the miners worked six hours and their children ten and twelve hours a day drawing the coal from them. In 1892, the 5th March there was a bill up before the house for eight hour days for the kids and eight hours all over the country. Fenwick and Wilson spoke against the eight hour bill and wished that Burke was present in the house, because if he had been present, he considered his presence, seeing possibly he was more ignorant than the other two, his presence would be an insult to their ignorance, because Fenwick and Wilson said if Burke was present surely we would be on the side with the angels. They voted it down, and after that vote they automatically got eight hours, but I can-

not see how and what is the use of a law on the statute book unless they are carried out; it is in the same manner and means where a man is starved and out of work and knocks on the back door where he hopes to get a slim hand-out, and if he does that he gets someone who says "Here is the cook-book, in that there are all kinds of things how to cook breakfast." But he says, I got nothing to cook, and they say no matter, it is in the book, that is the same as laws in the book. In the book they are useless and there is where the so-called labor party comes into existence. It pre-supposes we are brothers and pre-supposes any law is passed it is in their interests. If I was a hold-up man and I went to hold you up don't you think I would make a good job on the first attempt. I would be a failure if I had to pass a law and come back at you again. (Laughter).

Until we move together as a class and become conscious of the fact there are two classes in society and that we have labor power to sell and the buyer of that labor power wants to pay as little for as it possible and we want as much for it as possible, therefore we have in one a common buyer and in the other a common seller. Until you men become class conscious and organize the industrial field and not members of the petty bourgeois but get your economic organization outside of political parties of the working class leave this out; if you attempt to do otherwise you will be badly mistaken.

Secretary Midgley—Mr. Chairman, I don't wish to debate the subject, I merely want to make myself clear what the amendment means. Do I understand the recommendation of the committee to be to table or refer to the central committee?

By the Chairman—To table it.

Secretary Midgley—To table it as a whole, that is the recommendation. Now the amendment is to endorse one section of the resolution dealing with political action. If you do that you will practically put yourself on record as in a negative position with regard to the rest of the resolutions for industrial action, which as already stated, is the important feature. You put yourselves in a most peculiar

position by endorsing one portion and tabling the rest.

Del. Broatch (Calgary) — Mr. Chairman, I will not—I can not agree with the gentleman who last spoke, that it is a contradictory proposition at all. I want to say this to my mind every man that has spoken seems to have failed to grasp the important point of what I am trying to drive at. I am going to agree with the speaker that the labor representation we have had is a failure. I am going to agree and I am going to try to say why I agree. Because you have put in labor members to carry on a system that you now are going to organize a system to kill. Now that we are going to try to kill that system it is logical to put men in that house to kill that system; to have that as their policy and platform. That policy and platform has been absolutely defined and we are not going to prolong the system. You must send them there with the new platform, new idea, new conception of life, to bring about what you have been trying to do with the other means.

The Broatch amendment, on being put to a vote by the chair, was declared lost.

The motion, adoption of recommendation of committee re resolution No. 21, on being put to a vote, was declared carried.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Resolution No. 22: (Local Pocohontas, Alta., U.M.W.A.)—That this convention go on record that in the event of formation of the One Big Union idea prevailing that its ultimate goal will be the abolition of the wage system and that the six hour day is only of transient importance, that our goal is the ownership of the land, mills and all tools and instruments of production by the toiling masses themselves.

Recommendation of committee — This is covered by previous resolution adopted by the convention.

Resolution No. 23: (Alberta Federation of Labor)—Whereas there are at present hundreds of men languishing in the jails for no other crime than that they had the courage of their convictions.

Be it therefore resolved that this conference demands the release of all political prisoners.

And be it further resolved that we

approve the calling of a general strike should other means fail to secure the end sought.

Recommendation of committee — The convention has already covered this by a previous resolution.

Resolution No. 24: (Alberta Federation of Labor) — Whereas the federal government has by order-in-council passed measures restraining the freedom of speech and press, and

Whereas numbers of our members have been fined and imprisoned for having in their possession copies of literature banned by said orders, and

Whereas the necessity, if it ever existed, for such orders passed with the winning of the war, that has been waged by the empire and our allies for democracy and liberty, as we have been informed by all our statesmen and government representatives:

Therefore be it resolved that we request the Dominion Trades and Labor congress to at once demand of the Dominion Government the repeal of all restraining orders in connection with freedom of speech and press; failing to comply with request immediately that the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress take the necessary steps to bring about a general strike throughout the Dominion for the enforcement of our demand in this regard.

Recommendation of committee — Covered by resolution on freedom of press. I move the adoption.

Del. Russell (Winnipeg), seconded.

Motion, adoption recommendation, on being put by the chair, was carried.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Resolution No. 25: (Bricklayers' and Masons' Union No. 1, Regina, Sask.)—Whereas past history has proven that the lot of the worker has been of such a nature that it is high time they awoke to their needs and made their voice heard in the crying need for better social conditions, and

Whereas indications point to the formation of a new era in the world's history, and believing that the time is at hand when we should recognize the fact that the day of high sounding phrases on the part of the government's is passing, and the time opportune for a united effort on the part of the workers to form some

basic principles which will prove beneficial to the workers as a whole;

Therefore be it resolved that we place ourselves on record as favoring a six hour day, and a five day week, and that we ask the Western Inter-provincial conference to do its utmost to have the government standardize the same.

Recommendation of committee — Covered by former resolution. I move the adoption.

Del. Duncan (Transcona), seconded.

Motion, adoption recommendation, on being put by the chair was carried.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Resolution No. 26—(Alberta Federation of Labor) — Realizing that the present state of unionism with its craft autonomy is a menace to class solidarity and united action;

Be it resolved that we go on record as being in favor of every step taken to eliminate class or craft factions so that one organization may be evolved which will operate industrially and politically toward freedom, industrial democracy and the control of our own lives.

Recommendation of Committee — Covered by Industrial Unionism resolution. I move the adoption.

Del. Logan (Winnipeg), seconded.

Motion, adoption recommendation, on being put by the chair, was carried.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Resolution No. 27—Believing that the interests of the workers in allied craft unions would be better served by closer relationship, we recommend that our members use every effort to bring about the consolidation of activities by an amalgamation of different allied international organizations with one grand president.

Recommendation of committee — Covered by Industrial Unionism resolution. I move the adoption.

Del. Foster (Winnipeg), seconded.

Motion, adoption recommendation, on being put by the chair, was carried.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Resolution No. 28: (Vancouver Metal Trades Council, F. W. Welsh) — Resolved that this council recommend to affiliated unions

to take under consideration the question of one industrial organization and that they instruct their delegates to the Western Conference to be held at Calgary next month, to bring this matter before the conference in order that steps may be taken immediately to start such organization.

Recommendation of committee — Covered by Industrial Unionism resolution. I move the adoption.

Del. Head (Vancouver), seconded.

Motion, adoption recommendation, on being put by the chair, was carried.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Resolution No. 29—(Alberta Federation of Labor)—(General and sympathetic strikes)—In view of the fact that the workers are not industrially organized which form of organization we believe would take care of labor disputes more effectively than any other, and believing that it will be some time before we are sufficiently organized in this state, and that situations such as general and sympathetic strikes are liable to occur at any time it is therefore necessary that machinery be created to handle these emergencies.

We recommend that each craft organization, in any locality, appoint one of its members as part of a committee, and when a call comes for a general or sympathetic strike these members shall at once meet and discuss the issue and make recommendations to their organizations at a meeting which they shall have the power to call.

The locals will then appoint or elect one or more of their members who will be the representatives of that locality, and their duties will be to proceed to some point or storm centre, if deemed necessary to form part of an executive to carry on such strike.

Recommendation of committee — Covered by Industrial Unionism resolution. I move the adoption.

Del. Knight (Edmonton), seconded.

Motion, adoption recommendation, on being put by the chair, was carried.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Resolution No. 30—(Bricklayers' and Masons' Union No. 1, Regina, Sask.) — Whereas, Canada is

afflicted with a form of government which is of extreme stability;

And whereas social and economic conditions in Canada are changing with extreme rapidity and are likely to continue to change with perhaps even greater rapidity;

And whereas the stability of the government prevents it from properly adjusting itself and the nation's affairs to rapidly changing conditions;

Resolved that there is a distinct possibility in the near future of the present form of government being unable to adjust national affairs so as to produce equity within the nation and enable every person in the country to obtain the means of life, liberty and happiness.

2. It may soon be necessary to substitute for our present form of government an assembly and executive to reorganize the nation on a co-operative basis and perpetuate that form of internal adjustment within the nation.

3. In view of these possibilities it is desirable that all possible information should be obtained as to how much organization is being carried out in other countries and that a desirable method of reorganization for this country be worked out in all the detail possible.

4. That a committee be appointed with provisions for obtaining this information, working out the plans and distributing the results among our members of the labor movement so that they may be prepared for the reorganization in case it becomes necessary.

Recommendation of committee — Covered by plan of policy and industrial resolutions. I move the adoption.

A Delegate (unrecognized), seconded.

Motion, adoption recommendation, on being put by the chair, was carried.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee — Resolution No. 31) — Regina Trades and Labor Council—Whereas the government proposes to undertake a large amount of public work to provide employment for a large share of our working population, and

Whereas such work is undertaken principally in the nature of relief

work to provide means of subsistence for those needing it,

And whereas under the contract system the workers receive the smallest share possible of the monies expended;

Resolved that all public work so undertaken should be done by day labor so that all money spent shall go directly to those needing it the most, and that the public treasury should not be burdened with the additional expense of contractors' profits nor an inferior class of work done to increase profits, and that every possible influence should be brought to bear with this end in view;

Whereas the working population depend for their livings upon wages earned while in employment, and

Whereas one-half (approximately) of the workers of Canada have until recently been carrying on all the essential industries of peace, and the other half consisting of the army and munitions workers must now be provided for, and

Whereas it has been a tendency in the past and will continue to be a tendency in the future for labor saving machinery and efficiency methods to constantly reduce the amount of human labor power necessary to supply the demands of the world's markets, thereby reducing the number of workers who can get a living from these sources;

Resolved that this is a suitable time to reorganize and accept the fact that employment as at present practised can no longer be depended on as the source of income and the means of subsistence for a large part of our population and that other means must be immediately devised for providing the same.

Recommendation of committee — Covered by previous resolution. I move the adoption.

Del. Knight (Edmonton), seconded.

Motion, adoption recommendation, on being put by the chair, was carried.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee) — Resolution No. 32 — (Hotel and Restaurant Employees, No. 597, Calgary) — Whereas the culinary crafts throughout Canada are faced with the serious problem of having to compete with Chinese in their industry, and

Whereas the hotel and restaurant employees' local unions are unable to organize to any degree of efficiency on account of conditions prevailing through Asiatic labor predominating, and

Whereas through this competition the hotel and restaurant employees are working under most unsatisfactory conditions as to hours of labor and the spreading of their working hours over a period of twelve and fourteen hours, and

Whereas in some cases the hotel and restaurant employees are working seven days a week;

Be it resolved that this Western Conference go on record as opposed to the patronage of restaurants owned and operated by Asiatic and be it further resolved that this conference support the hotel and restaurant employees in establishing white help exclusively in all hotels and restaurants or other licensed premises where food and refreshments are served.

Recommendation of committee — *Your committee considers this will be carried out by the new organization and therefore don't have any recommendation with regard to it.*

Del. Stevens (Calgary)—Mr. Chairman, this resolution has been dealt with and you have turned it down—you have. Now it is up to you to say these Asiatics do come into this One Big Union and also that they do become educated on that line; that they do not work opposed to this One Big Union but are brought into this One Big Union.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—I can't speak with regard to Calgary hotel and restaurant employees but I can speak for Vancouver. We had this question up and they wanted the Asiatics put out. And I may say, it is a greater question in Vancouver than it is here. We pointed out to them if you want to improve conditions, then go and organize the menace and that is the proposition necessary to be undertaken by this organization. These people here, were brought here by the persons whose interests in bringing them was to beat you down and now that they are here it is up to you to see they are organized.

Del. Stevens (Calgary)—It is also

up to us to see they are educated and organized.

Del. Kavanagh—If half the people were as well educated as the Chinese it would be all right.

Del. Stevens—These we have down here I fail to see are educated.

Del. Kavanagh—Why did the government shut down the Chinese National Association?

Del. Allman (Vancouver) — Mr. Chairman, it seems kind of peculiar to me after passing resolutions here, which we have done in the B.C. Federation and this conference for the One Big Organization, industrial unionism, that we have to deal with a resolution trying to cut out the Chinaman or oriental. I don't love the oriental any more than any other labor man, for the simple reason I have to compete with him.

If you think that this kind of standard as worked is good and you want to come so you can raise the standard and uphold yours; hold your own than take him in. You say I don't want the oriental into the unions, his eyes are slant; you don't want the Hindu, why not? as they are not to blame for the place where they were born; I can't help I was born across the water. You people have got to help them. The master class wants them in order to whip the white slave, beat him down to a lower standard, and therefore you must take in the oriental if you are to do away with the club the master has over you and you are going to uphold your own standard of living. (Applause.)

Del. Taylor (Victoria)—I desire to amend the recommendation of the committee. I would move that this conference places itself on record as being in favor of organizing all the workers, irrespective of race, creed or color. (Applause.)

Del. Allman (Vancouver)—I think the resolution we have passed already to organize the workers in One Big Union doesn't state whether white, red, yellow, brown or black. It states we are going to organize all the workers irrespective of color or creed.

By the Chairman—That is the recommendation of the committee and we don't require to amend it.

Del. Grogan (Vancouver)—I would

like to ask the mover and those opposed to the finding of the committee that we will assume, for instance, any one of the hash-slingers, those working in hash-foundries want the privilege for themselves but suppose for instance tomorrow; they will go out tomorrow to farm and there is a horse bred in Canada, and a horse bred in China, and the horse bred in Canada, seeing we support home industry—

Del. Stevens (Calgary) — Are we horses? Mr. Chairman—we are educated and the horses are not.

By the Chairman—It is not a personal point. Bro. Grogan has made no intimation that the Brother was a horse; it is not a personal matter.

Del. Grogan (Vancouver) — I am only making a comparison, because I know for the last two dozen years in attending meetings of the slaves they got heads like chunks of marble and I find that by this method of comparison I might possibly break through the marble.

But the horse—the Canadian horse is born and bred in Canada and the other horse is born and bred in China and the horse from China is able to do a little more work, and work a little faster, and only takes two gallons of oats. The Canadian horse is slow and clumsy and takes three gallons of oats. Which horse are you going to put to work, assuming it is a Chinese horse and a Canadian horse? Why a man would be a lunatic if he didn't buy the Chinese horse.

Capitalism pre-supposes one class in society; they own the tools of production and seeing we are tool-making and tool-using animals to the capitalist class we are nothing only for our energy regardless of race—white, yellow, red or black, it doesn't matter to them only that they get that which is the cheapest kind. The cheapest kind which can reproduce for them the cheapest. There is no sentiment to it and these fellows opposed to the Chinese, seeing we are the majority, why don't they leave the country and go where there is no Chinamen. It is not the Chinamen who want to come here to throw you out of a job it is the modern system of production which they have so the slaves will be in that position,



and they make it so that everyone that comes has to rustle a job and they know very well they all come over here looking for a job wherever they can find it. They know they have horse sense enough to stay away if they can't get a job so that is the way of it.

Now then seeing we slaves sell labor power; can produce it just like any other commodity, and seeing the surplus they possibly will take that to keep an army and navy to keep us stabbed into submission. In view of that fact I believe it is better to have the Chinaman in this country than over in China, because here if he wants to work he sees our standard of living and we have a chance to raise him up to that, while if he is in China, where I have heard tell he lives on rats, possibly sometimes he lives on the smell of rats, and how can you compel him not to live on the smell, but if you had him over here you could. Here I find the Chinamen, if they do work for less wages they keep another half dozen on the side, and they know a good deal more than the white bartender who could knock you down and take your money and then ring it up for the boss—he is the best kind of mule in the world.

Recommendation re resolution No. 32 declared adopted.

By the Chairman—Before the Resolution Committee continues; it is about seven minutes to the time of adjournment and there are some few matters that it is necessary to clean up before adjournment.

We have yet the conclusion of the report of the Resolution Committee, the report of the Ways and Means Committee and this other matter of the Provincial Committees, and other incidentals. Now we have asked one from each province to convene the delegates from the provinces that he represents for the purpose of bringing in the names of the committee to act in conjunction with the central committee. The Secretary will read the names of each one, and that one the convenor possibly can announce where they will convene for this purpose.

Secretary Midgley—The delegation from Alberta being the largest in the convention we recommend that they

meet in the body of the hall, Delegate Bellamy, convenor.

The next largest British Columbia we recommend that they meet in the basement. (Laughter.) Delegate Kavanagh will convene the meeting.

A Delegate (unrecognized)—What time?

Secretary Midgley—The suggestion is you convene after this meeting to elect the committee of five.

Saskatchewan, a small delegation, Delegate Watson, in this corner room (indicating).

The delegates from Manitoba, the third largest delegation will convene in the gallery, Delegate Russell, convenor.

The arrangement had been made that there will be none named for Ontario, the Ontario delegates having expressed their desire to go in with the Manitoba delegation.

Del. Cottrell (Vancouver)—I would suggest that the clause dealing with the question be read so that the delegates will agree when they meet.

Del. Trotter (Vancouver)—I believe the Committee on Ways and Means are prepared to make a report and I would suggest that the Chairman and Secretary of the different delegations be responsible for to bring in what is required as you will learn when you receive the report of the committee. That is merely a suggestion.

By the Chairman—It has been asked that the clause pertaining to these Provincial Committees be read.

Secretary Midgley—This answers the question Mr. Chairman. Clause 3 of the Policy Committee's report—"And further recommend that delegates from each province meet and elect a committee of five to work in conjunction with the Central Committee in carrying on the necessary propaganda to accomplish the wishes of the convention."

I would suggest the delegates meet as has been stated in order to elect that committee of five.

By the Chairman—That is the answer.

Delegate Kavanagh wishes to make an announcement.

Del. Kavanagh (Vancouver)—To the B.C. delegates, in view of the fact that B.C. decided to go in alone in the event of the other western prov-

inces not coming in and in view of the fact you elected your executive to carry on that, it will be only necessary for the executive to remain to carry on the propaganda under the new order.

By Secretary Midgley—(Announcement)—The delegates of the Civic Employees Organization are requested to meet in fire headquarters at 8 p.m.

By the Chairman—Delegate Trotter has made a suggestion the Committee on Ways and Means have a statement that can be worked out to advantage if it is now put before you and on account of the provinces meeting together, with your permission I will ask the chairman of the committee to state the one proposition.

Del. Miller (Winnipeg) Chairman Ways and Means Committee — Mr. Chairman, the whole report, while not complete in the expenditure, we have drawn up a list and the list of possible expenditure to this time is \$210.00 and as we have no other ways or means, it is up to the members here to contribute to defray the expenses. But taking the delegates in attendance with the suggestion of one dollar from each, we believe that will be sufficient to meet such expenses as have been immediately incurred, and any balance after payment of accounts to be turned over to the Central Committee.

Del. Trotter (Vancouver)—I would move that the different Provincial Secretaries, in order to render the collection of that dollar easy, to take over the matter of the contributions and that will simplify the work instead of having the whole delegation here do it.

By the Chairman—Is that the first item?

Del. Miller (chairman of committee)—In order to collect money to defray the expenses of this conference we recommend a dollar would be sufficient to cover that expense.

I move the adoption.

Del. Trotter—I second with the suggestion that the convenor of the various committees collect from the members of the province. Do you include that in the motion?

Del. Miller—Yes.

Del. Knight (Edmonton) — Speak-

ing on the motion, on this matter of collection, if we leave it we may have the conference broken up, and personally I think it would be far better now to go and take up the collection. You have the bunch here now and do that rather than leave it until afterwards. It is only a matter of staying here now; I think in five minutes it could be done.

By the Chairman—I think it will be better to take the motion as originally presented by the committee, that the sum of one dollar be collected, and then decide later how you are going to do it.

Secretary Midgley—I am not opposing the recommendation, but I am questioning the estimated cost of the conference. I don't think we can with the sum that they have stated. I don't know whether they have taken into consideration or estimated the cost of the stenographic work into that matter, also rent of hall, printing bill and other things.

Del. Miller (chairman of committee)—The items are hall rent, issuing circulars for the call of the conference. For the stenographer we allotted \$100.

Secretary Midgley—That will not be sufficient.

Del. Miller (chairman of committee)—Even down at that amount, together with all other items, the amount comes to \$203.25, I think. That is the estimating \$100 for the stenographer.

By the Chairman—The hour of adjournment having arrived, further business is not in order.

Del. Kavanagh (Vancouver) — I move we extend the time until this matter is disposed of.

Del. Moulten (Victoria)—Seconded.

The motion on being put by the chair was carried.

By the Chairman—There is a motion before the house from the Ways and Means Committee that the delegates be asked to contribute one dollar to defray expenses and that the convenors will be responsible for the collection of that fund.

Del. Seal (Winnipeg) — I rise to move an amendment that it be two dollars.

Delegate (unrecognized) — Seconded.

The amendment on being put to a vote was carried.

By the Chairman — Motion as amended on the question of money raised in that way and the convenor of the Provincial Committees to be responsible for the collection of that fund—the motion as amended.

Del. Watchman (Victoria) — Is it possible at this time to suggest that the secretary make a roll call of all delegates, collecting the amount and marking paid opposite the name?

Del. Atkinson (Carbondale) — All the delegates would hear and then you would know who paid.

Del. Watchman (Victoria) — The motion as presented now is that the convenor, as announced from the various provinces, be responsible for collecting the sum of \$2 from each of the delegates from the provinces.

By the Chairman — I thought by putting the motion as amended it would facilitate the matter.

Del. Watchman (Victoria)—I suggest the roll call.

Del. Kavanagh (Vancouver) — I would move the secretary give a list and that the names be marked off.

By the Chairman — I take it that is out of order as amended.

Del. Watchman—I move the secretary be instructed to take a roll call of all delegates and the delegates as they pay same be marked off paid.

A Delegate (unrecognized)—Seconded.

The Chairman — Inasmuch as that does not conflict, I therefore accept the amendment.

Amendment on being put to a vote was carried.

Roll call collection followed and at the conclusion thereof, Chairman Tallon declared the meeting to be regularly adjourned.

### THIRD DAY — MORNING SESSION

President Tallon convened the conference at 9.05 a.m.

President Tallon (Chairman)—The secretary will proceed with the question of the Provincial Committees, announcing the names of those elected to act in conjunction with the Central Committee.

Secretary Midgley — For Manitoba:

R. B. Russell (chairman) Winnipeg; A. Scoble, Winnipeg; F. J. Baker, Brandon; H. Roberts, Winnipeg; W. H. Lovatt, Winnipeg.

By the Chairman—Any question or objection to those nominees, if not, I declare them accepted by the convention as the Manitoba Committee.

Secretary Midgley—For Saskatchewan: R. Hazeltine (chairman) Regina; J. Sambrook, Regina; J. McMurray, Saskatoon; F. Cropper, Moose Jaw; W. Munroe, Moose Jaw.

By the Chairman—No objection, I declare them accepted.

The B.C. Committee is J. Kavanagh (chairman) Vancouver; H. Cottrell, Vancouver; P. McDonnell, Vancouver; J. Taylor, Victoria, and G. D. McMurphy, New Westminster. We will now ask that the Alberta committee be announced.

Del. Bellamy (Medicine Hat)—Mr. Chairman, we had a convention of our own, it lasted until half-past seven to select the five for the province of Alberta. There were eleven stood in the field. I believe sixteen or seventeen nominated altogether, and it took three ballots before we could make a selection of five.

Alberta Provincial Committee — C. Berg, D. McNabb, and W. Kolling, Brule Mines, elected on the first ballot, and Mrs. G. L. Corse and J. Marshall, Carmen, on the third ballot.

Alberta Provincial Committee — C. Berg, Edmonton; Donald McNabb, Lethbridge; W. Kolling, Brule Mines; Mrs. G. L. Corse, Calgary; J. Marshall, Calgary.

By the Chairman—Any question to the selection of these delegates? Hearing none, I order them accepted by the convention.

Del. Miller (Chairman of Ways and Means Committee) — Mr. Chairman, under order of business Ways and Means Committee, there is only one item, that of expenditure they will report later on. The other two recommendations of the committee; one had been decided, the other is that any balance which is left that the amount be turned over to the Central Committee.

I move the adoption of that recommendation.

Del. Hill (Vancouver)—Seconded.

The motion, adoption of recommendation, on being put to a vote

was declared by the chair carried.

Del. Miller (Chairman of Ways and Means Committee) — The committee also recommends that the janitor be allotted five dollars for his services.

I move the adoption.

Del. Sinclair (Vancouver) — Mr. Chairman, I think we are a cheap bunch to ask the janitor to clean this mess for that. All the members on any job want more than \$5.00.

I would move that we make it \$20 for the janitor.

Del. Moulten (Victoria) — Seconded.

Del. Reed (Calgary)—As I see it this \$20 is outside his regular pay. I make an amendment that it be \$10; \$10 would be just as useful in our treasury and, moreover, it is outside his usual pay.

Del. Kavanagh (Vancouver) — While the twenty might be outside his usual pay, this dirt is outside his usual work, and you must know when a convention is in session it makes considerable mess and there is no use considering he gets paid because you give him extra work. I don't see why you should cut off the \$10; \$10 to an aggregation such as this is very little and a lot to one individual, and I am in favor of \$20.

Amendment to recommendation of Ways and Means Committee to allot \$20 to the janitor was, upon being put to vote, carried.

Del. Miller (Winnipeg, Chairman of Ways and Means Committee)—I understood there were some other matters to come, but all five items we have are all right, that is the printing already done, the stenographer, that we have not got up to date, then the janitor and the typewriting already done.

I move accordingly the adoption.

Del. Moulten (Victoria) — What was the result of the collection, Mr. Chairman.

By the Chairman—That is not a matter of the report of the Committee on Ways and Means. I understand the secretary of the convention will make that report.

Del. Cottrell (Vancouver)—Is there anything regarding remuneration for the Secretary for work being done?

Del. Miller (chairman of committee) — We went into that, but this committee had no idea the amount

would be collected, therefore left it until the amount was collected.

Del. Campbell (Vancouver) — I would second the adoption of the recommendation of the committee, Mr. Chairman.

Del. Cottrell (Vancouver)—I would move an amendment that the committee take under consideration remuneration for the Secretary, seeing the financial condition is rather altered with the \$2 contribution from the members. There has been considerable done; a lot in between calling the conference, and the calling it, and during this conference. It has been, gentlemen, that he has had to work right up to date and had to get an assistant. I think the whole matter should be taken under consideration, special consideration.

Del. Broatch (Calgary)—Seconded.

By the Chairman—I take that a motion to refer back.

Del. Miller (chairman of committee)—Mr. Chairman, talking to the motion. Any committee is subservient to this conference, and this conference can back anything without any committee bringing in a recommendation.

Del. Broatch (Calgary)—I would like to ask what are the arrangements whereby the delegates will get the proceedings of this convention in their hands? How are they going to get them, and what has been done?

Secretary Midgley—If the question is in order, Mr. Chairman, I would say it will be impossible to get the proceedings until the stenographer has completed the verbatim report, and from information from him it will take the best part of a week to get that out. As soon as that is received it will be possible to have the proceedings printed. There was some arrangement to have the "Western Labor News" and the "B.C. Federationist" print a report. I don't know whether that dropped through; if they have, the delegates would be able to get the proceedings as out of the two papers; bundles from them would be mailed to the delegates through the various trades council officers.

Del. Broatch (Calgary)—I would like to have the principal matter; such as the resolution, printed and in the hands of the delegates as quickly as we can. We don't want

it to be a question to wait a week, or two weeks on the line of action we are going to take.

I would make a motion—

By the Chairman—A motion is not in order. We have a motion to refer back. We have elected a Central Committee with instructions to issue circulars and other matter in the shape of propaganda, and it will be in order for the Ways and Means Committee to instruct that committee, if you so desire, on the question of printing the minutes of this conference, or any other matter; that is anything on the question to refer and the committee instructed to bring in a report or not. You may vote to adopt it as a whole and the convention can state a sum, apart from that collected by the committee. However, the motion is to refer to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Motion to refer back to Ways and Means Committee, on the vote being taken, was carried.

(Show of hands required by the chair to decide).

Del. Campbell (Vancouver)—I move the question of the proceedings of this convention and distribution among the membership be left in the hands of the Central Committee.

Del. Hubbell (Vancouver) — Seconded.

By the Chairman—Going to leave it in the hands of the Central Committee without instructions.

Del. Knight (Edmonton) — Mr. Chairman, there is just one feature I would like to bring to the attention of the delegates. It is this: Many of the delegates will be returning to their various districts tonight or in the morning, and I know some will possibly get into harness and will be attending union meeting and so forth, and I do not think if this is left in the Central Committees' hands to decide, there will not be sufficient time to get the matter in their hands; for instance, all I would think necessary would be things—that is the most important resolutions. Those which have been passed which are the fundamental basis of this organization, should be printed and each delegate should have a copy to leave this convention with. To me it doesn't appear there are about more than four resolutions which count and I suppose a matter of

five dollars would print sufficient so that they would have a copy.

I have not yet seen in the press a proper correct copy of any motion—of any resolution in full, and so I think that might as well be considered. It wouldn't be a difficult task and for only a matter of four or five dollars we could all have them, so we could use them when appearing before our fellow workers.

*I would move as an amendment that the secretary be instructed, or the Chairman of the Resolution Committee be instructed, to hand the four or five principal resolutions over to the hands of the printer and have them printed forthwith, that we could have them. It will only be a matter of a few dollars and we could get them for use.*

Del. Broatch (Calgary)—Seconded.

My idea in seconding this motion, the resolutions we want at work only consist of about four. We find the entire work of this convention, as far as resolutions would be embodied in about six very short resolutions which cover the constitution before the house.

In order that we could get right at work, my idea is to strike while the iron is hot. I expect it will take more than a week for some to get the resolutions in their hands, and to my mind it is a very important matter, and should be carried by this convention that they be got into their hands at once and then those final reports later.

Del. Scott (Vancouver) — Mr. Chairman, speaking to the amendment, I would like to see put in that report of the Policy Committee. It is necessary for any delegate to have that report verbatim, I would like to sav, tonight.

Del. Hubble (Vancouver) — Mr. Chairman, I rise to support the motion to refer the matter to the Central Executive. As you all realize this is an important matter and should be in the hands of the affiliated members or delegates at the earliest possible moment, but as we know a considerable number of the delegates will leave tonight, and in my opinion it will be practically impossible to get them ready. I think by leaving it in the hands of the Central Executive, they understand your wishes and they will have them

in the hands of the central labor bodies at the earliest possible moment, but don't crowd the business on this. I particularly favor the motion because we will never get it through that way right.

Secretary Midgley—Mr. Chairman and delegates, being a stranger, I don't know the facilities available for printing the resolutions and putting them in the hands of the delegates leaving for home tonight, but some have already left, and it looks to me we will be pretty near ready to close by the adjournment at noon. However, in this connection let me point out to Bro. Knight, and everyone, that so far as the resolutions go, they were printed in the "Herald" and the report of the Policy Committee was in black face type with every resolution printed verbatim, so if you get copies of the newspapers of the last two days and cut out the resolutions and report of the Policy Committee you could get it quicker and without the trouble of having the resolutions printed and got out until printed in the proceedings of the convention.

Del. Broatch (Calgary)—A point of information. I believe this motion; the amendment carries this matter can be in your hands by 3 o'clock this afternoon. So far as the press is concerned the resolutions are not complete.

By the Chairman—The amendment is that the Chairman of the Resolution Committee hand the resolutions over to the printer as soon as possible and copies of these be placed in the hands of the delegates, and I take it, that includes the report of the Policy Committee.

Amendment on being put by the chair was declared lost.

(Show of hands required).

Del. Cottrell (Vancouver) — In view of the appointment of the provincial committees, Mr. Chairman; I move the following resolution:

*That following the adjournment of this conference, the Central Committee and the Provincial Committees meet to consider organization work and draw up rules and regulations to govern the committees in their work and to safeguard the financial interests of the One Big Union proposal.*

Del. Hubble (Vancouver) — Seconded.

Del. Cottrell (Vancouver) — Mr. Chairman, I think it is important this matter, that we don't make any slip. The question of how the funds are to be safeguarded should be considered immediately, and the same system should be, if possible, drawn up for each committee and I think, meet together in conjunction with the Central Committee and draw up definite rules, I think it will be best.

By the Chairman—Will you pass that resolution that the Provincial Committees and the Central Committee proceed to adopt a line of action for the future?

Del. Farmilo (Edmonton) — Mr. Chairman, with reference to this Policy Committee in the outline of the Policy Committee and as this resolution clearly outlines that the question of raising the finances has been taken care of, that is, for the provision of the inauguration of this organization, but the question or disbursing and the manner in which should be disbursed has not been given thought by this convention. That is, beyond what has been brought out in the general discussions, and that so far as it would be necessary to have organizers going to certain places and also to have speakers with a view of at least bringing about the desired result of this convention.

Now I think that this convention should at least adopt some system whereby that they would say how these funds, which were to be raised through various organizations, should be distributed, and the manner in which that should be distributed, and the amount necessary for expenses that should be allotted for the people, at least, going ahead with propaganda propagating these ideas. If that is not done there may be a question arise from the various organizations how the money should be disbursed, and who disbursed by, and the amount, certain amount of work to be done, and unless you do I am afraid a number of the organizations will not see their way clear to send the money along. I draw this to the attention of the convention with a view to obtaining some opinion. While we have a Central Committee, but nevertheless this is the main body and they should instruct the Central Committee one way or

the other so that the work carried on will not be retarded by any objection that might be raised.

Del. Cottrell (Vancouver) — Mr. Chairman, the reason I put the motion is to carry out just exactly the idea Brother Farmilo is talking about. Surely we can trust the Provincial Executive to be able to draw up rules and safeguard the finances without wasting the time of the whole conference.

By the Chairman—I will not, at this time, have a discussion on this matter. We will now pass the motion whether we want to instruct the committees to get together immediately after adjournment. You know who are going to meet and if you want to issue instructions to that meeting I think that would be better to so order after disposing of this.

The motion is instructing the committees to meet immediately upon adjournment of this convention.

The motion on being put by the chair, was declared carried.

By the Chairman — Now if you have anything of this nature instructing the meeting it will be in order.

Del. Mrs. Armstrong (Winnipeg)—Mr. Chairman, I would like to say one more reason which brought us up from Winnipeg was to place before the men-folks here how the women have had to suffer because organizers up and down the country for the last thirty years holding mass meetings and public meetings never invited the women workers, consequently on vital issues like conscription, the women were slaughtered, and regarding liquor, they had enough whisky there to have a free bath for half of Winnipeg.

Now these women, the capitalist provides the dope factories and the minister hands it out. The Y.W.C.A. they don't forget the women, they educate them so well that when the men vote why their wives went and voted against their own best interests. I want you men to go back and start their education to make them take their place in the class struggle. It is your own fault you have been crucified—I have no sympathy for you. (Laughter.) I have sat in meetings, hundreds of times the only woman—the only woman. I

happened to have a labor skate for a dad, that is how I am here, but I tell you it is up to you to get together; to get out and instead of letting them stay home and sew and perform work of that kind all the time, let them come to the meetings and listen to labor organizers and Socialists.

Our Women's Labor League, I would like to take the time—a few minutes—to let you know what the Women's Labor League is doing; a few of the things. When a strike of the men's organization is on our women are out as pickets. In times of strikes we raise funds for the boys on strike to pay strike pay. These are some of the things we do. The Women's Labor League also holds economic classes and invites the boys to come to give talks, and these economic classes are educational. These are only a few of the things, and I want you to go on, pushing along in regards to the clause. You must do that unless you want to keep on getting it in the neck the way you do.

By the Chairman—You may bear in mind the committee will meet after this convention and anything you think this convention should go on record instructing them I think it would be better to put it in a concise manner and bring it up after we dispose of the remaining resolutions. That will give you some time to think it over and we can continue the regular business at this time. There being no objection, it is so ordered.

Del. Miller (Chairman of Ways and Means Committee) — Before proceeding I would like to call the Ways and Means Committee together.

By the Chairman—The Ways and Means Committee can retire.

Secretary Midgley—I think it would be advisable to announce for the information of the Ways and Means Committee the amount collected is \$477.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee) — Resolution No. 33 — (Copy Telegram) — Inter. Seamen's Union, Windsor, Ont., Mar. 13, 1919 —

*"Secretary Western Labor Conference, Convention Hall, Calgary. Greetings, Western Canada workers. Class conscious America expects you to*

*help sound death knell of Gompersism. While Gompers wines and dines with kings and queens in Europe, these sixteen class war prisoners born in Canada and British Isles, and some of them known to you were sentenced in Chicago after Department of Justice blocked fair trial by holding up mails and smashed efforts to bring witnesses for defence to serve ten and twenty year sentences in Leavenworth penitentiary: George Hardy, Hull; Anson Soper, Charles Ashleigh and James Manning, London; Bert Lorton, Birmingham; Ted Fraser, Manchester; Albert Prashner, Maidenhead, and Harry Lloyd, London, England. Herman Mahler, Chatham, Ontario; Sam Scarlett, Kilmar-nock; C. L. Lambert, Forfarshire; J. Oates, Cumberland; Donald Sheridan, Aberdeen and Peter McEvoy, Renfrewshire, Scotland. Dan Buckley and James Brown, Ireland, and J. Moran, Australia. Judge Landis declared they had no part in war agitation. They preached One Big Union gospel. These from Sacramento just joined them: Frederick Esmond, Manitoba, Canada. Graves, London, England. Connellan, Dublin, Ireland, and Malrooney, Australia. Gompers invaded Ottawa to help reactionary politicians fight class conscious Canadian labor. He continues attacks on workers who sleep in prison for you. You are outside for them. Protest ill-treatment, demand fair play. Western Labor News and Federation-ist readers know my writings. Wells and Ivens know the name. Yours for One Big Union and the world for the workers. (Signed). Gordon Cascaden, member of International Seamen's Union."*

Recommendation of committee — We recommend this conference condemn actions and attitude of Gompers, president of A.F. of L. I move the adoption.

Del. Kermode (Vancouver), second-ed.

Motion, adoption recommendation, on being put by the chair, was carried.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Resolution No. 34: Builders and Masons, Regina—"Whereas organized labor has not been as well represented at the various Trades Congresses (as they might have been) owing to the expenses attached to

the sending of delegates from far off towns and cities;

Resolved that this convention place itself on record as being in favor of the pooling of delegates' expenses by a per capita tax system."

Recommendation of committee — We recommend in favor of principle but move resolution be laid on table.

Del. Sambrook (Regina), seconded.

Motion, adoption recommendation, on being put by the chair, was carried.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Resolution No. 35: Int. Bro. Elec. Workers (213)—That this conference demand the Dominion Government to conscript all war profit and same be used for the relief of the families of fellow soldiers.

Recommendation of committee — Committee have no power and recommend that resolution be laid on table.

Del. Hubble (Vancouver), seconded.

Motion, adoption recommendation, on being put by the chair, was carried.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee) — Resolution No. 36: (B.C. Fed. of Labor) — Whereas members of organized labor have been, and are being brought to trial for violation of certain orders-in-council that are of themselves violations of constitutional rights, and

Whereas the workers individually cannot afford to employ counsel for their own defense;

Be it resolved that this annual convention of the B.C. Federation of Labor do put into motion right here and now, machinery for inaugurating a sinking fund (either by levy or other means that will eliminate the aspect of charity) for the employment of the best legal talent in defense of workers arrested for aforesaid offenses, this fund to be open to any organized worker by application of his union; and upon discretion of trustees of said fund;

Be it further resolved that this resolution be read at western conferences with the object of suggesting its adoption to all provinces.

(P.S.) — If adopted would suggest referendum vote be sent to all unions, etc., asking their support of the fund and would they be willing to pay a certain fixed charge per member per month.



Recommendation of committee — That this is covered by Industrial Policy.

Del. Allman (Vancouver), seconded.

Motion, adoption recommendation, on being put by the chair, was carried.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee) — Resolution No. 37: (B.C. Federation of Labor)—*Whereas the interests of returned soldiers and other workers are identical, and*

*Whereas there is at present much misunderstanding as to the aims and ideals of soldiers and other workers, and*

*Whereas if they were to meet and discuss each other's problems together, both classes would get better results.*

*Amend—*

*That we favor the formation of joint committees from soldiers' organizations and central bodies and federations of labor.*

Recommendation of committee — Committee report favorably.

Del. Hodgson (Vancouver), seconded.

Motion, adoption recommendation, on being put by the chair, was carried.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Resolution No. 38: (Calgary I.A.M. No. 357) — Resolved that this conference goes on record as favoring a better understanding between returned soldiers and members of labor organizations. Also recommends that returned soldiers who carry a card should join the soldiers' organizations.

Further we suggest that committees from central bodies or locals should meet representatives of soldiers' organizations, also inviting representatives of farmers for the exchange of opinions and co-operation along lines that would be to the advantage of all concerned.

Recommendation of committee — Already covered, and requires no comment.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Resolution No. 39: (Copy of telegram)—*Vancouver, B. C., March 13, 1919. Harry Grand, Western Conference, Labor Temple, Calgary, Alta. Vancouver Painters Union adopted resolution in meeting tonight for you to present to western conference conveying our heartiest congratulations*

*to the all Russian Soviets and Workers Council in their effort to establish a sane system of human society. (Signed). J. McMillan, for V. President.*

Recommendation of committee — We recommend that this be included in the minutes.

Del Pritchard (Vancouver), seconded.

Motion, adoption recommendation, on being put by the chair, was carried.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Resolution No. 40: (Amal. Postal Workers Calgary) — *Whereas Mr. J. L. Lewis, railway mail clerk of Saskatoon, has been convicted and sentenced to imprisonment for having in his possession banned literature, part of which came into his possession through the mails only a few minutes prior to his arrest, and*

*Whereas the Department of Justice has since released this man from custody;*

*Be it resolved that this congress of western labor assembled demand that an investigation be at once held to look into the whole matter, and furthermore, we demand that J. L. Lewis be reinstated to his former position and reimbursed for any monetary losses he may have sustained through his arrest.*

Recommendation of committee — This has been covered by the resolution dealing with political prisoners. Your committee feel by taking up the case of one individual then they would have to take up every case in the past, and we feel therefore the local council in his district should take it up. I move the adoption.

Del. Hatley (Vancouver), seconded.

Motion, adoption recommendation, on being put by the chair, was carried.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee) — Resolution No. 41: (Calgary, I.A.M., No. 357)—*Whereas the spokesman of Canadian labor, together with the President of the American Federation of Labor have refused to take part in the International Labor Conference at Berne on account of the presence of German and Austrian wage workers, and*

*Whereas the Peace Conference at Paris is being participated in by alien enemies of the capitalist class, and*

*Whereas the said Peace Conference*

*is devoting much time to industrial questions "including the exploitation to the greatest possible extent the workers of the world."*

*Therefore be it resolved that this conference strongly disapprove of the actions of the Secretary of the Dominion Trades and Labor Congress in refusing to live up to, and with the British Labor Movement participate in, the Berne Conference.*

Recommendation of committee — We condemn the action of Secretary Draper for his reactionary attitude.

Del. Bellamy (Medicine Hat), seconded.

Motion, adoption recommendation, on being put by the chair, was carried.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Resolution No. 42: (Regina Trades and Labor Council)—Whereas the Grand Division Canadian Brotherhood of Railway Employees have presented to us grievances against: 1st, a company fostered union known as the Brotherhood of Dominion Express Employees; 2nd, the Canadian National Railways; and believing that their grievances are bona fide grievances and worthy of the consideration of all organized labor bodies in the Dominion of Canada;

Therefore be it resolved that we the Regina Trades and Labor Council place ourselves on record as being in full support and sympathy with the G.D.C.B. of R.E. and that we take all the steps possible to endeavor to bring about a settlement of their grievances, and

Be it further resolved that we take the matter up with the Trades Congress Executive; the Minister of Labor, and the Western Inter-provincial Conference, requesting them to bring about a speedy settlement of the grievances as outlined by the Grand President of the G.D.C.B. of R.E. and that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Grand President, A. R. Mosher.

Recommendation of committee — Covered by Industrial organization.

A Delegate (unrecognized), seconded.

Motion, adoption recommendation, on being put by the chair, was carried.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Resolution No. 43: (Regina Trades and Labor Council)—Whereas

certain large financial interests are endeavoring to promote a new kind of labor union on what is known as the Rockefeller plan in which the union is confined to the factory or plant in which it exists, and inducements are held out to the workers in the form of insurance and an appearance of a voice in the management of the business, and

Whereas the danger exists and instances are already at hand where attempts are made to substitute this form of union for the national and international unions as they at present exist, and

Whereas such unions would eliminate labor as a national or international influence and place the workers more completely at the dictates of the employers than under the present widely connected organizations;

Resolved that organized labor should at once recognize the menace in these company promoted unions and their appearance of advantages, and should take steps to prevent its spread by getting all workers in the advantages of this form, and the disadvantages of the other.

Recommendation of committee — Covered by Industrial Union.

Del. Flewin (Victoria), seconded.

Motion, adoption recommendation, on being put by the chair, was carried.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Resolution No. 44: (Regina Trades and Labor Council)—Whereas there are many problems that are identical in the interests of the soldier and the worker and believing that a closer co-operation should exist between all parties whose chief object is the betterment of conditions for the commonweal, and

Whereas in our opinion the Great War Veterans' Association should be represented on all Trades and Labor Councils in Canada, thereby enabling the aforementioned parties to get a closer view of the situation that is affecting the workers;

Resolved that we ask the Western Inter-provincial Conference to go on record as favoring a Dominion wide movement to place the soldier and organized labor on a better understanding economically and industrially.

Recommendation of committee — Covered by previous resolution.

Del. Bardsley (Victoria), seconded.

Motion, adoption recommendation, on being put by the chair, was carried.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Resolution No. 45: (Regina Trades and Labor Council)—Whereas in our opinion the present policy of immigration as outlined by the Minister of Immigration is very unsatisfactory and should be strenuously opposed by organized labor;

Resolved that we are opposed to any government enacting a policy of immigration which favors the securing of immigrants for Canada through agencies established in any country;

That we are opposed to bonuses being paid to any agencies (in any country) for immigrants that come to this country;

That under no consideration would we favor the immigration of Asiatics into Canada.

Recommendation of committee — Covered by previous resolution. I move the adoption.

Del. Hubble (Vancouver), seconded.

Motion, adoption recommendation, on being put by the chair, was carried.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Resolution No. 46: Regina Trades and Labor Council—(1) Resolved that we of Division 588 of the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employees are unanimously in favor of an eight-hour working day on all street railways;

(2) Resolved that this Division is opposed to the operation of the One-Man street cars.

Recommendation of committee — This is not our business. I move the adoption.

Del. Hatley (Vancouver), seconded.

Motion, adoption recommendation, on being put by the chair, was carried.

Del. Brooks (Bellevue, Mineworkers)—Mr. Chairman, in view of the fact that the chairman of committee has stated there is nothing of any importance in these resolutions, why waste the time of the convention in wading through them?

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—For the reason, Mr. Chairman, that the delegates may think

the committee has not considered all the resolutions. The committee have gone over all these resolutions but if it is the wish of the convention I would state the contents of the resolution and then move what we consider possible.

Del. Smith (Rosedale, Mineworkers)—Mr. Chairman, I think we could get along without having these resolutions all brought up and any delegate who thinks his resolution has not been covered by a previous resolution put forward could bring it up.

I would move that any delegate in this convention who thinks his resolution has not been covered formerly could bring the matter before the convention.

Del. Hatley (Vancouver) — I think it would be very much better for the chairman to read the substance of the resolution.

By the Chairman — Subject to any objection to the recommendation of the committee the chair will order same disposed of without a seconder.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Resolution No. 47: (Alberta Federation of Labor) — (No. 1) Whereas the War Time Election Act is one of the most pernicious measures ever foisted on this, or any other country;

Therefore be it resolved that we demand the repeal of this measure, substituting therefor an entirely new act providing for the election of representatives by proportional representation system of voting with a further provision for adult suffrage throughout Canada.

(No. 2) Believing that the interests of the workers in allied craft unions would be better served by closer relationship, we recommend that our members use every effort to bring about the consolidation of activities by an amalgamation of different allied international organizations with one grand president.

(No. 3) Whereas the Federal Government has by orders-in-council passed measures restraining the freedom of speech and press, and

Whereas numbers of members have been fined and imprisoned for having in their possession copies of literature banned by said orders;

Therefore, be it resolved that we request the Dominion Trades Con-

gress to at once demand of the Dominion Government the repeal of all restraining orders in connection with freedom of speech and press; failing to comply with request immediately that the Dominion Trades Congress take the necessary steps to bring about a general strike throughout the Dominion for the enforcement of our demand in this regard, and

Be it further resolved that failing to get satisfactory results that a general strike vote be taken within thirty days.

(No. 4) Whereas there are at present a number of men languishing in the jails for no other crime than that they had the courage of their convictions;

Be it therefore resolved that this conference demands the release of all political prisoners, and

Be it further resolved that we approve the calling of a general strike should other means fail to secure the end sought, vote to be taken within thirty days.

(No. 5) Realizing that the present state of unionism with its craft autonomy is a menace to class solidarity and united action;

Be it resolved that we go on record as being in favor of every step taken to eliminate class or craft factions so that one organization may be evolved which will operate industrially and politically toward freedom, industrial democracy and the control of our own lives.

Recommendation of committee — All covered by previous resolution.

(There being no objection the chair declared the recommendation adopted.)

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Resolution No. 48: (Alberta Federation of Labor)—General and sympathetic strikes—In view of the fact that the workers are not industrially organized which form of organization we believe would take care of labor disputes more effectively than any other, and believing that it will be some time before we are sufficiently organized in this state, and that situations such as general and sympathetic strikes are liable to occur at any time, it is therefore thought that machinery be created to handle these emergencies. We recommend that each craft organiza-

tion in any locality, appoint one of its members as part of a committee, and when a call comes for a general or sympathetic strike these members shall at once meet and discuss the issue and make recommendations to their organizations at a meeting which they shall have the power to call. The locals will then appoint or elect one or more of their members who will be the representatives of that locality, and their duties will be to proceed to some point or storm centre, if deemed necessary, to form part of an executive to carry on such strike.

Recommendation of committee — Covered by policy.

(There being no objection the chair declared the recommendation adopted.)

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Resolution No. 49: (Regina Trades and Labor Council)—*Whereas previous periods of artificially promoted immigration have shown that the bulk of the immigrants, no matter for what purpose they are induced to come to the country, they eventually find their way into the cities to compete with resident workers for the meagre sources of livelihood there available, thereby lowering wages and aggravating the competition, and*

*Whereas it appears to be the intention of the Dominion authorities to carry on propaganda and offer financial inducements in other countries to artificially promote such immigration, and*

*Whereas costs of living and labor conditions generally are menacing the livelihoods of present Canadian Workers, and*

*Whereas such promoted immigration benefits the land speculator and a limited group of business interests at the expense of the working population;*

*Resolved that we view with alarm any attempt to promote immigration at the present time and until all residents and former residents are firmly established on a peace footing. That in self protection the workers should take steps to frustrate any such attempts.*

*That labor organizations should provide men and money to carry on counter propaganda and inform intending immigrants of the difficulties facing the agricultural and labor*

*interests of this country, and make public their intention to do so.*

Recommendation of committee — That we advise working class organizations in other countries of the industrial and farming conditions existing here.

(There being no objection the chair declared the recommendation adopted.)

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Resolution No. 50: (Winnipeg Local Joint Federation Executives)—Whereas the management of the government railways having approached a committee of the Federated Trades, bringing to their attention that the Returned Soldiers' Committee had approached them asking that all alien labor be dismissed in order to give employment to returned soldiers, and

Whereas the said committee of the Federated Trades explained to the management that as those men were members of our organizations and were also covered by a national agreement which could only be changed by our membership all over the country, we as a local committee were powerless to make any changes that would conflict with our constitutions or agreements, and

Whereas the Federated Trades Committee representing the C.P.R., C.N.R. and G.G.G.R. at Winnipeg, having no authority to violate our agreement or constitutions by agreeing to have those men dismissed, and as the capitalist class of this country have persistently offered bonuses to those people who come to this country, even in face of all the protests of organized labor, therefore forcing us to organize those people, irrespective of nationality, creed or color, for our own mutual protection;

Therefore be it resolved that we the local representatives of the Federated Trades, insist on the agreements being lived up to in every particular;

And be it further resolved that we hold it to be the duty of the government to amply protect all workers, whether returned soldiers or aliens, as they were responsible for bringing them to this country for their own particular benefit.

Recommendation of committee — Covered by previous resolution.

(There being no objection the chair declared the recommendation adopted.)

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Resolution No. 51: (Edmonton Machinists)—Whereas the time has arrived for all wage workers to have proper sanitary houses to live in, and

Whereas in the past the tendency of real estate agents has been to exploit the conditions in the various cities where insufficient housing accommodation exists by building as many as six houses on one 50 x 150 ft. lot. The result making for overcrowding and unsanitary conditions, and

Whereas at the present time there is a general scheme on foot amongst the various rental agents to continue this parasitical action by increasing the rents to returned soldiers and workers, thereby securing a larger amount of unearned increment;

Therefore be it resolved that we request the Provincial and Dominion Governments to proceed at once with its housing scheme, such scheme shall make provision for workers to borrow at least \$2,500 at a rate of interest of 4 per cent over a period of 20 years.

Resolution No. 51a — Resolved that a petition be made from all unions and central labor bodies to all moving picture film producing companies employing actors, actresses, camera men and other union employees, that the union label be placed on the title projection of all films manufactured by them;

And further be it resolved that such films bearing the union label, shall not be shown in or supplied to, unfair or non-union houses;

And further be it resolved that the governments of the several western provinces be petitioned to the effect that a lavatory be placed in connection with and form part of the operating booth in theatre;

And further be it resolved that we go on record of endorsing the following platform:

Universal legislation governing organized labor engaged in the amusement enterprises west of the Great Lakes.

Government compensation for lost

time under federal, provincial or municipal closing orders.

The Factories Act as applied to the amusement business.

The Workmen's Compensation Act as applied to the theatrical craft.

Laws for the protection of our members in the fly galleries and the abolition of the sand bag.

Report cards for Western Canada issued from first city played.

Organization of film exchanges and front of house theatre employees.

Universal wage scales, wage scales to terminate on corresponding dates in each province.

The advisability of the western provinces forming a separate L. A. district.

Labor affiliations and relations with allied theatrical organizations.

Seizure before judgment laws in each province.

Non-usage of films in poor physical condition.

License and examinations laws in the different provinces;

Be it further resolved that a fire law to provide that at least fifty feet of fire hose be at the disposal of the stage hands and placed in a convenient place on the stage for protection against fire, the same to be connected with city water power supply with nozzle attached to hose for immediate action, also that fire escape be provided from fly gallery where same is above the level of the stage.

Recommendation of committee — Covered by new policy.

(There being no objection the chair declared the recommendation adopted.)

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee) — Resolution No. 52: (Pulp Sulphite and Paper Workers, Powell River, B.C.)—Be it resolved that this conference elect an inter-provincial council composed of a president, secretary and treasurer and one vice-president for each province, to act as an advisory board.

Recommendation of committee — Covered by former resolution.

(There being no objection the chair declared the recommendation adopted.)

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Resolution No. 53: (Calgary, I.A.M. No. 357)—Be it resolved that this conference go on record as being

utterly opposed to the Daylight Saving scheme and pledges itself to use all methods possible to prevent its application to the industrial workers of Canada.

Recommendation of committee — Laid on table.

(There being no objection the chair declared the recommendation adopted.)

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Resolution No. 54: (Western Firebosses Association) — Whereas the present mining laws of the various provinces of Canada make it necessary for mining certificates, first, second and third, to be held in the particular province where the holder is to work and such laws work a hardship in these days when men by economic conditions are forced from one province to the other;

Therefore be it resolved that this convention approve of the request of the organized certificated workers that a federal law be passed applicable in all provinces.

Recommendation of committee — Covered by new policy.

(There being no objection the chair declared the recommendation adopted.)

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Resolution No. 55: (Blacksmiths, Winnipeg)—Whereas the people of Manitoba restricted the liquor traffic by voting in majority by referendum vote, in favor of the McDonald Act, and

Whereas the Dominion Government over-ruled this referendum vote by order-in-council, this order making total prohibition as a war measure;

Be it resolved that this local ask the delegates at the Western Conference to take whatever action they think best to have this order-in-council rescinded.

Recommendation of committee — Laid on table.

(There being no objection the chair declared the recommendation adopted.)

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Resolution No. 56: (Moose Jaw Trades and Labor Council) — (No. 1) That we stand for a universal eight-hour day or less and minimum standard wage for all workers.

(No. 2) That a minimum standard wage be set by the government for

all female workers with proper factory inspection and regulation, child labor to be prohibited under sixteen years of age.

(No. 3) That we demand the citizens of this country be given positions that are now held by alien enemy. And that the government take steps to deport all alien enemies out of this country who will not take out the oath of allegiance.

(No. 4) That we stand for the referendum vote of the people on light wines and beer.

(No. 5) That we are in favor of the principle of Industrial Unionism if it can be worked out without the disruption of our present affiliations, and casting to one side of our machine that we have been so long in building up.

(No. 6) That we protest against the congress being held in Eastern Canada year after year.

(No. 7) That we go on record and stand for free speech and a free press.

(No. 8) That we support an organization on industrial lines whose aims would be, to secure for the producers by hand or brain the full fruits of their industry and the most equitable distribution thereof, the same to be worked out on the basis of the common ownership of the means of production, with the best obtainable system of popular administration and control of industry and service subject to a ballot of all organized workers.

Recommendation of committee -- This among others contains the prohibition resolution and as this is not a vital question to this convention we recommend same be laid on table.

Del. Barnicutt (Calgary) — Mr. Chairman, I would like to know what the question is and then we can act accordingly. I would like it read and I so move.

Del. Harris (Port Arthur), seconded.

Del. Taylor (Victoria)—A point of order, Mr. Chairman, I understand unless there was any objection that the course you have just been pursuing would be followed, and naturally in giving the report of the committee would comment upon same, but in the event of any objection that the ordinary course of procedure

would be followed. I submit a motion is not necessary.

By the Chairman—I think the point well taken. A request has been made to read the motion and the delegates will kindly pay attention.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee) — (After reading Resolution 56.) The majority, I suppose, Mr. Chairman, are opposed to prohibition of any kind, but had it not been a war measure this conference would not have been in existence. (Applause.)

I move the adoption of the recommendation, that same be laid on the table.

Del. Wood (Vancouver), seconded.

Motion, adoption recommendation, on being put by the chair, was carried.

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Resolution No. 57: (Railway Carmen, Saskatoon)—In view of the necessity under the present system for the care of all workers,

Be it resolved that we ask the Western Inter-provincial Conference to consider the advisability of a compulsory state insurance policy to cover sickness and unemployment.

Also a system of absolutely free hospitals and control of the medical service and accessories to the same by the state be inaugurated.

Also that pensions for the aged industrial workers be demanded.

Recommendation of committee — Covered by present policy.

(There being no objection the chair declared the recommendation adopted.)

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee)—Resolution No. 58: (Steam Shovel and Dredgemen, Calgary) — Whereas the forces of imperialism are well organized and are seeking to further strengthen their position by means of a league of nations which if successful will inevitably lead to a more intense exploitation of labor by international imperialism, and

Whereas should such league of nations (otherwise international imperialism) become an accomplished fact the consequence will be disastrous to labor;

Therefore be it resolved that all Trades and Labor Councils throughout the four western provinces be instructed to immediately start an

extensive propaganda in order to bring home to the various locals the seriousness of the situation and the necessity of organizing on the industrial field.

Recommendation of committee — Covered by Industrial Resolution.

(There being no objection the chair declared the recommendation adopted.)

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee) — Resolution No. 59 — The delegates representing Civic Service Federal Labor Union No. 52, Edmonton, would move that this convention place itself on record as being in favor of total prohibition and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the respective governments of the four provinces.

Recommendation of committee — Committee recommended the same course as the former resolution, that same be laid on table.

Del. Grogan (Vancouver) — Mr. Chairman, the contention is raised that prohibition is good for the working class; that is when they are not drunk for instance; I never saw many of them that had the price to get drunk, they generally only get stuff to make them crazy.

The argument is he is not able to think, now the ruling class bathe in champagne and they can think enough of their interests. When the workman goes to work, his wages is an order on the store, and naturally if he spends 25c or 40c for booze the boss don't have to give the order on the store; he gives it on the brewery. If you can get this going you will soon hear next that smoking is bad for the lungs, why his tobacco will disappear; later on they will tell you you don't need to get your hair cut and then the barber will be knocked out of his job and they will keep on until they get him back until he gets something around his waist again. (Laughter.)

The argument is around that one thing, the worker is robbed as a consumer, and if he is I would like to know what Rockefeller, the millionaire is? He consumes a lot more junk than I do. The argument of the reformer so far as I have seen with regard to booze and hotels; I have seen hotels where you will find slaves from every country in the world dis-

cussing the question in relation to the working class. The scissor-bill slave who never drinks booze or smokes tobacco, you will always find has a ministerial mug on him. Generally as a rule he is practising to be a preacher and peddle ecclesiastical real estate. (Laughter.)

I am in favor of booze, the best kind, and I don't want no parasite of any kind of encroach on my order on the store. That is all they are doing, they tell you "don't drink but save your money and you are good mules and will go to heaven when you die possibly if we are all sober." If I go to rustle a job when I am half drunk I am quite sure that I have more brains than when I am sober, may be he might get the job, but anyway I don't feel like going to work when I am half drunk because when I am half drunk I think I have got more brains than when I am sober. (Laughter.) Another thing they figure it is cheaper government; they don't have to have as many police or as many gaols, etc., as it is nothing only the cheapest all the way through, and anything that encroaches on our pay-envelope we hold.

Del. Mrs. Armstrong (Winnipeg) — I would like to tell the delegate the women already have passed the resolution to do away with the smokes.

(There being no objection, the chair declared the recommendation of the committee adopted.)

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee) — Resolution No. 60: J. H. McVety, Vancouver, B.C.; J. Taylor, Victoria, B.C.) — Whereas Canada is a country of magnificent distances, cost of travel making it impossible for local unions, except those situated close to convention city to be represented at the convention of the Dominion Trades Congress, and

Whereas the majority of the conventions are held in Eastern Canada and reflect the opinions and wishes of that section only, and

Whereas at the Quebec Convention only 44 delegates were present from west of the Great Lakes resulting in the organization of this conference of western representatives to secure a better expression of the views of the western membership, and

Whereas the congress must represent the whole membership if finan-



cial support is expected from all parts of the country;

Therefore be it resolved that this conference is of the opinion that the form of organization should be changed and conventions held at central points with delegates from provincial Federations of Labor and Trades and Labor Councils only thus reducing the expense to the movement and securing a truer expression of the wishes of the membership throughout the whole of Canada;

And be it further resolved that western delegates to the next Congress convention be requested to introduce and press the adoption of this resolution.

Recommendation of committee — Committee consider that this should be laid upon the table in view of previous action.

(There being no objection, the chair declared the recommendation of the committee adopted.)

Del. Kavanagh (chairman of committee) — Resolution No. 61: (Stage Employees and M.P.O., Calgary) — Whereas the recent epidemic of influenza has shown us the need of some form of unemployed insurance, the drastic action of the government in throwing out of employment one section of wage earners for the benefit of the other section without providing any means of redress;

Therefore it is resolved that the government provide a means of reimbursing all classes of workers who may be deprived of their means of livelihood through federal, provincial or municipal closing down of industries, and therefore unemployed insurance should be included in any government policy formulated by this conference.

Recommendation of committee — Covered by new policy.

(There being no objection, the chair declared the recommendation of the committee adopted.)

Del. Kavanagh — I move the adoption of committee as acted upon.

Del. Pritchard (Vancouver), seconded.

The motion, on being put to a vote by the chair, was carried.

Del. Trotter (Vancouver) — Mr. Chairman, how many resolutions have been dealt with by the conference, and how many have been cov-

ered by the policy of the conference, and not dealt with?

By the Chairman—If you will bring up that matter in ten or fifteen minutes the secretary will have a record. In the meantime I would ask if any committees having anything further to report?

Del. Nixon (Vancouver) — Is there anything giving the definition of the referendum to be taken on these matters? Will it be the same as defined by the B.C. Federation? What is the referendum to be taken?

By the Chairman—I don't know the procedure to be taken by the British Columbia Federation; the Policy Committee stated the Central Committee would issue the ballot, would compile the ballot and upon that would call representatives from all sections according to the number that they would represent from that locality and when those representatives met that they could then decide accordingly. You may not have had the procedure of the British Columbia Federation in mind, however.

Del. Nixon (Vancouver) — I would move that the referendum to be taken be the same as the B.C. Federation.

A Delegate (unrecognized), seconded.

By the Chairman—Now it would be necessary to have that read. It is not sufficient for this convention—the same as the B.C. Federation unless the arrangement is read.

Del. Kavanagh (Vancouver) — In the B.C. Federation, their understanding was a majority vote of all trades; to make a change in the structure of the organization it is to require a majority vote of the organization comprising the vital trades, metal trades, miners, according to the amendment to the constitution they carried, changing the structure of the organization, and the resolution also would require a two-thirds membership vote on the question of general strike, the executive taking into consideration the vital trades and geographical position.

Del. Barnicutt (Calgary) — Mr. Chairman, a question: What constitutes a vital trade?

Del. Kavanagh (Vancouver) — Vital trades are those, which ceasing work compel others to cease by virtue of the fact they cannot carry on with-

out them. In the city of Vancouver, the longshoremen, metal trades, that is the transport workers and metal trades, demoralize the city of Vancouver. Those trades which are the keystones of the industries in any particular centre, that is what is meant by vital trades. You will take a railway system, now it is true the engineers and drivers could keep working so long as the round-house workers keep operating. If all other employees or any section of employees which affect the vital part of the transportation system cease work they demoralize that system. These are the vital trades which occupy the position in the labor movement where by cessation they compel the cessation of others.

Del. Cottrell — Mr. Chairman, I would move as an amendment, that these alterations in the constitution of the B.C. Federation be handed to the Central Committee and the Provincial Committees for their guidance, and let them deal with the matter. I think it is rather too complex to deal with in this conference. I think the Central Committee when meeting the Provincial Committees following the adjournment of this conference will get to know about these; that ought to be satisfactory.

My amendment is these resolutions be handed over to those committees for their guidance.

Del Hubble (Vancouver), seconded.

By the Chairman—The amendment is that these be handed over to the Central Committee and they will take into consideration the procedure outlined.

Del. Bardsley (Victoria)—Speaking to the amendment, Mr. Chairman and delegates, there is—I would like to point out here—there is a difference between this assembly and the assembly of the B.C. Federation. The B.C. Federation have decided on a change of policy for a body already constituted and already in existence. They have decided on a certain line of action with regard to the percentage of the vote and just how they will act according to the return of the vote. We are setting out a policy and as I pointed out speaking to the main resolution, we are here, according to what we have already done,

we are setting out to form a new organization.

Now the question to me is of far greater importance; starting a new organization than to change the policy of an organization already in existence. It is of greater importance; every local which will have to be faced by each delegate on their return and I would like this convention to go on record as to what they consider the right percentage of that vote which will warrant going into this proposition and start it out. I believe it would require a higher percentage to form a new organization than what it would to alter the policy of an organization already in existence. I just want to point out, I don't want to offer any amendment, but I think the point should be taken into consideration that there is a difference. This is for a body changing its own policy and in the case of so many different organizations which will have to face the music when they start to deal with the proposition. I contend this is a question for consideration and reasonable thought on this matter and when we go back we will find we have got to keep down a great amount of argument on these questions. I think a concrete expression should be given by this body as to the percentage of the vote that we need to start this organization, because the reason I am offering this, I want to see the organization launched and I want to see it launched successfully. I don't want to see it started and go under.

The delegates who desire to alter the policy of the B.C. Federation, they have already covered this, debated it on and off the floor, but as far as I am concerned I don't want to see it launched unless it is launched successfully, that is the reason I raised the point.

Del. Farmilo (Edmonton)—What is the amendment?

By the Chairman — The Central Committee compiling the vote take into consideration the policy outlined by the B.C. Federation. The motion stands instructing them to adopt the policy of the B.C. Federation of Labor.

Del. Barnicutt (Calgary) — Mr. Chairman and delegates, the question arises here, what organization is of vital importance? We have delegates

of all organizations in the four provinces, which of those organizations are of the most vital importance? The question to me, I have been in conversation with several delegates here after the meetings, and I find that they are not unanimous. We have had resolutions passed through and they have been reported as unanimous but I find in conversation—one man says last night, “they wouldn’t stand for this method on no consideration which we are about to form,” and so on and so on. Now I want this question raised which of the organizations are of the most importance? and the question to me is: “are we really organized in a state that we may form an organization which we are about to launch.” Now I think, as one man said last night, possibly some of us have been cowards; that has been put, some of the delegates have been cowards inasmuch as they haven’t the courage of their own convictions.

The question is this, those men are here as representatives of the different organizations; they are going back to the various locals and they will go back with the same impressions that they gave out in private conversations, and the influence will be to cause dissension or a division. We are not unanimous; there is no use going away with that idea. There is no use going away with the idea we are going to form this great big union, as I say, if we think we are unanimous, because we are not and I can prove that in conversations with many delegates.

Now the question to me is why distinguish any organization as being more essential than another; we are all essential in this big organization.

Del. Cottrell—Point of order, Mr. Chairman. My point is you hardly gave the amendment as I gave it. You said the Central Committee would decide this, my amendment is the Central Committee in conjunction with the Provincial Committees would deal with this matter on adjournment; that is different.

By the Chairman—There is no instruction, only a suggestion, that they take into consideration the policy outlined, referred for consideration when they thought fit. There is no definite instruction in the amend-

ment, only offering the policy of the B.C. Federation for their guidance.

Now this morning, the Resolution Committee, I understand, is practically finished up, and the question of Ways and Means is all that is left so that we have considerable time at our disposal this morning, and if anyone has any thoughts or ideas along this fundamental of this convention we might as well devote some time to discussion, but there is no necessity to unduly prolong the discussion.

Del. Nixon (Vancouver)—As mover of the motion, Mr. Chairman, my idea was to get the sense of this convention, not with any attempt to let out the vital trades but we should adopt a standard of instituting the referendum. As this Brother brought out, we are not by any means unanimous. I might state there are delegates here, a lot of them to my knowledge, and I will say any delegate would probably when he goes back to the union tinge his report according to the glasses he wears. Some may wear glasses red and will give a rosy report, others so blue it may scare the organization, but I would like to get the whole thing so as to get the full support in any action.

That is the question I would like to see decided before I go back to the local. I am here without any prejudice but at the same time without any instructions, but I am willing to take back to my local a clear report of this convention without prejudice on either side, because I realize the time is very serious in the matter of the labor movement and I don’t think any one man or two or three, or a dozen have any right than to go back to their local and make a clear report without any prejudice. That is what I am going to do; at the same time what I want to get at is this: whether you will leave the settling of the referendum to the active minority or to the inactive majority. If you are going to leave it to the active minority—

Voices—Sure. Sure.

Del. Nixon—If you are, as this is a broad question and each delegate, he puts the straight question to his local without any camouflage as to the action, my judgment is certainly away out. You might say, if you like, the active minority rules, though

I hold it does not. It may define the policy but if we come to facts, hide it if you will, we are going to adopt a policy of force, we have come to that and you must have the support of the whole of the workers. Don't hypnotize yourselves that you are going out to do this and it will be like taking candy from a blind baby. This business is not on that level and you will have to use force, moral force or what you like, but coming to the last analysis it is going to be by force. You must have the bulk of the workers behind you if you are going to get anywhere.

I have always been radical but never so radical that I am going to jump at a thing that I can't see where I am going. To carry this thing through you must put it before the members stripped of all camouflage. You must put it right down that they can understand it and any of the delegates must put it in the same way; you must have the support of the majority.

Del. Grogan (Vancouver) — Mr. Chairman, speaking of policy, going to vote two-thirds majority or majority vote, or what is vital industries and what ain't. Now the reactionaries here have hollered ever since they came, "stop thief," "stop thief," and by those very words they don't seem to have guts enough to come out straight, but desire to throw in a monkey wrench to clog the machine by it. Nevertheless, it not only covers but uncovers and exposes the vulgarity of the mind of those of the kind. In other words they express the vulgarity of their own minds by their action; still want to stay the same as the organization which always said, "Master give me work or give me death." After a period of four years and three months they don't seem to be satisfied yet.

One man told this and one man said that and finally these have no minds of their own, because it is what the other fellow says, not what I say. They fail to realize that they are wage-workers; they fail to realize there are two classes. In their failure to realize we are sellers of labor power they fail to realize in selling our labor power we have nothing in common with those going to buy, inasmuch as they say, "I want

to pay as little as possible and the seller selling it wants to get as much as possible;" still want to ring in this old contradiction and say the buyer and seller are brothers, and they have no quarrel and only how much the buyer will give and how much the seller can get; in other words "a fair day's work for a fair day's bundle of hay." (Laughter.)

A Delegate (unrecognized) — What has this to do with the motion before the house?

Del. Moulton (Victoria) — Move for an extension of time, Mr. Chairman.

By the Chairman — As stated, we will have a little latitude so we will have firmly in mind what the prospects are, but I would ask each delegate not to unnecessarily prolong discussion.

Del. Nixon (Vancouver) — Does that latitude include in convention, anyone — the scurrilous abuse of anyone bringing forth matters for attention?

By the Chairman — It doesn't; as the chair sees it he has not made any mention of personalities. I thought he might the way he was going, but he didn't. (Laughter.)

Del. Grogan (Vancouver) — Seeing that there are only about six basic industries in the country and all others are small and grafted into the six basic industries, no matter where you find any bunch of mules in any penitentiary they are all producing something in that penitentiary that is essential for the next penitentiary before the product is put on the market. In other words no capitalist in industry is in it but for profit; that is the reason they think "profit." The capitalist is not producing anything for himself, he is producing something, or has a bunch of mules producing, for somebody else. Take a man manufacturing shoes, he doesn't do that for his own use, he has got to sell shoes. Now then we find these industries all split in different parts, different sections, and we find any time that any part of an industry or any division of an industry goes on strike all automatically go unless they stay with the agreement made with the boss; that famous contract. Like Shakespeare says — "I have an oath in heaven." There is no principle at stake, this is what they try to push forth and that is how they

go to take a vote to get around the contract.

As I see, two-thirds majority; which is the little industries and the basic industries, that their vote counts just the same you see. For instance, the hash-slingers, they take a vote and in the majority and the basic industry in the minority. They don't want—

Del. Stevens (Calgary)—Mr. Chairman, did you not pass a resolution no insinuating remarks would be allowed?

By the Chairman—I did.

Del. Stevens (Calgary)—This iron-monger must be somewhat deaf from pounding boilers so long, he didn't hear.

By the Chairman — The Brother used a term commonly applied to cooks and waiters, and I am convinced it was not mentioned any way personal. I would ask that that spirit would not be maintained and that we do not go into personalities.

Del. Grogan (Vancouver) — I have slung hash and I have worked as a stomach-robber in the kitchen. (Loud laughter and applause.)

Mr. Chairman, I don't see any reason to be alarmed about this vote you are going to put to the worker, and if the workers want the union he will vote for it, if he don't he will not have it. You can't force it down his neck and those people who want to form industrial unionism will find it don't grow on a gooseberry bush. It needs education before you can have it and in order to get education that is what we met here for; in order to get the best line of action seeing it will be necessary later on to die in the attempt to get what we need, or die in the want of it.

Del. Kavanagh (Vancouver) — Mr. Chairman, with regard to the vote required on this question, Delegate Bardsley stated he was of the opinion it would require a larger vote of the four provinces than it would in the province of British Columbia. I take a different view; British Columbia was prepared to go it alone without the western provinces, and figured the example they set would pull the others in line. They were prepared to go it alone on a majority vote of the basic trades—vital industries. We don't think one industry

is more vital than another in the operation of industry in general, but there are certain industries which operate and control other industries. For instance, if the electrical engineers in a shipyard strike, they tie up the shipyard. They are no more vital in the operation of the shipyard than the balance of the workmen congregated therein, but they are in the position to compel others. Really those employees in the operation of industry while no more essential by virtue of their position compel others of a like kind to cease; that is what is meant by vital trades.

The transport workers; transport industries are most vital. Let me point out the Canadian Pacific Railway is a gigantic organization, yet if the longshoresmen at Vancouver, Montreal, Quebec and Halifax ceased work the C.P.R. would be out of business, because their trade is carried on from continent to continent; the trade is hauled through that one industry operating in those four places and it constitutes a considerable menace to the operation of the C.P.R. Now other industries are vital in some degree. All transport workers come under the head basic; metal workers another and miners another. Let me point out if you get majority of the transport workers, the miners, and the metal trades, you could force the others into line. Sure it is force, nothing but force in existence, and unless you are aggressive no other element counts. The boss doesn't take notice of the man that doesn't scrap; he takes notice of those who get up in the meeting and do the business. That is the fellow he will listen to and will call. Let me remind you in opening operations our position is such that we must convince the majority that we are correct. That we are correct and that is the position in which we are placed. (Applause.)

We being and representing the aggressive workers in these western provinces, it is our business to go and show the members that the position we have adopted is the correct position, because if we cannot show that, we cannot stand; understand that is understood, but being aggressive we are supposed to be the thinking element and then you must impress upon

them the need of this proposition.

There are some, it is true, as the delegate stated; with glasses, rosy glasses and blue glasses, and the rosy glasses will paint a fine picture and the blue glasses nothing but disaster, and those with no glasses, those who see the things as it is. Those who have not by illusions or delusion decided that this was a unanimous proposition; we knew different. Those going back not painting a rosy picture but pointing the needs to the working classes of this country, those are the people who don't wear glasses.

It is true there is not unity on this question, but I will say the test of opinion on this convention was not shown by the vote on the floor but shown by your vote for the men you want to represent you, and the 210 votes for Pritchard, knowing Pritchard, are the men who want the thing declared as our purpose. (Applause.) There is no individual who knows him or I in the city of Vancouver; knowing what we stand for, knowing what we propagate, who voted for us without being in accord with the principles which we express, and when you voted for Pritchard on this floor, knowing his expressions to the convention, and knowing he introduced this in the B.C. Federation of Labor, then I consider that 210 were in favor of that thing which had been advocated. Furthermore those who could not get on the floor and express their dissatisfaction or opposition here cannot express themselves in competition with those who have stood up and expressed their opinion in favor.

You know we don't want to ram anything down, it was stated so far as the B.C. Federation of Labor was concerned, that we were going to ram this proposition down your neck, we didn't have to. You knew it was needed and you were ripe for it; demanded it; riper for it than we were. This was a convention as I have observed (and I have observed conventions), that didn't want discussion. The majority knew what they wanted and wanted action, that is my opinion, and while it is true there is approximately one-fifth or so of the convention that is not in favor, that cuts no figure. The necessity of the times is going to compel those who

did not see to come in line. It is not a fact that the convention is all agreed but it is a fact that for life itself a new form of organization is necessary for your preservation.

And it is because of this we have no fear. We are going to get a living for labor; we have never had a living, all we were doing was working from day to day, and that being the case we don't want to create parasites living upon this organization. We don't want to put the international officers out in order to put another bunch in their place; as workers we decided a policy and not reconstruction that has been talked the last fifteen or twenty years, and I think the consensus of opinion in this convention as expressed and as shown by both statements made on the floor and votes by the executive is such, the great mass will force the issue upon the membership and will be demonstrated by actual conditions by which these members have been working, not demonstrated by the fact this huge convention has gone in favor but the contradictions which have existed in the things and then show the position in the other direction and I think the argument will be a good one.

Del. Bardsley (Vancouver)—I want to make an amendment to the amendment. I realize the argument that has been advanced and I would not assert that if this proposition depended upon the personality of Pritchard or Kavanagh we would be able to carry it, but Brother Pritchard and Brother Kavanagh are not known in other parts of the world.

I will make an amendment to the amendment that it shall require sixty-five per cent of the vote in favor of industrial unionism before we start to put it in operation.

Del. Kavanagh — Why not kill it, Mr. Chairman?

Del. Reed (Calgary) — Regarding the vote, Mr. Chairman, there is always considerable confusion in taking these votes. In some constitutions it is laid down sixty-five per cent of those present at the meeting where the vote is taken. I would like the convention to clearly state its position, as to where the vote shall be taken or whether it shall be taken of the membership.

Del. Allman (Vancouver) — Mr. Chairman, there seems to be some kind of feeling at the latter part, that some of the organizations when the delegates go back are afraid to face the issue; industrial unionism issue or the One Big Union. It is true Pritchard and Kavanagh are not known over the world, but it is also true the working class movement is known the world over. That is the aggressive working class fighting for their own emancipation regardless of Pritchard or Kavanagh, regardless of who you put at the head. Pritchard and Kavanagh are not trying to do anything for themselves; not trying to cram anything down but clearly in the interests of the workmen which Pritchard and Kavanagh represent as shown by the ballot cast by the convention. (Applause.)

So far as taking the vote that is going to be taken, majority vote of the so-called basic industries which the capitalist class has got. Now you take the logging industry, the capitalist owns the sawmill and so on down the line but he could not work one of them if the logger did not cut the timber and taking it say from the logging camps; naturally other industries would be compelled to shut down. Also take the cooks and waiters or any other form of trade. Take if the grain was not cut and threshed they would not be able to work, so taking the vote of the basic industries vital under the capitalist system; take the progressive worker, why we have the basis where we know what we want.

Del. Sommerville (Moose Jaw) — Mr. Chairman, I have sat in both the convention of the B.C. Federation of Labor and this convention and I have noted a disposition to dispose of the problems advanced by certain delegates opposed to industrial organization. I don't think anything can be gained by it; I don't think anything can be gained by going away from this convention unless we know something about what we are going to do, and we can't know unless the convention invites full discussion.

I want to say here, delegates, for your information, use your own judgment in the matter. You have heard a lot about international officers — A delegate (unrecognized) — Louder, please.

Del. Sommerville (Moose Jaw) — I am one of those individuals who have been getting a meal ticket in the organization. I just state that so you can take it for what it is worth. But I have been longing to see changes you have been desiring in it, and I have always favored industrial organization and have nothing in the form of an apology for the machinists for their stand in that regard. It is not only the question of organization but we don't want to take the step and back up, regardless of what has been said by the representatives of the machinists' association, the largest here, that our members are prepared to take action without knowing where they are going; I take it, I think they do want to know something more about where we are going.

A Delegate (unrecognized) — Is this delegate discussing industrial unionism or the question of taking the referendum?

By the Chairman — Brother Sommerville has not taken up the time of this convention before; there has been considerable latitude allowed other speakers.

Del. Sommerville (Moose Jaw) — I believe the question is how this vote is going to be tabulated; how you are going to act; what the proposition is going to justify, is very much to the point.

Now, mark you, it strikes me by moving from the changed view many promote at the present time, this particular kind of industrial unionism — the One Big Union, it strikes me all the time that that particular wing don't seem to be able to proceed without destroying first what you have. I have been classed as a labor faker because I didn't believe in dropping trade unionism and going after political action I have always contended the two must travel side by side; one supplementary to the other. The political action is no good without it is strong industrially. Now that is the particular wing of our labor movement, I will say, will come to an agreement. Now admitting just the possibility that they may make a mistake again when they say we must destroy what we have before we start to proceed building.

The Winnipeg wing of those, the section of this wing in Winnipeg attended one of the conventions. It was argued on the floor to make

industrial unionism proposition it could be brought about without disrupting or without severing ourselves with the International. I believe that we are all in agreement that the craft union, as it now stands, must give way to industrial organization, but the way to establish it is the big proposition. They argued up and down it could be done without severing our connection. I took the floor and argued it couldn't be done without severing connection, unless it is a general movement from America.

Now this section from Vancouver says it must be done, so that may be we are mistaken again. They agree with our friend, Sam Gompers, that the industrial movement is the thing. You haven't anything to be sore about, at least that is Sammy's position; industrial action was a move to get all labor expected to get. Now he says at the present time, he contends that the craft union is all right. We are progressing and going along all right, possibly the same advocates of this move at the present time will come along later and say he is right. Probably say it is necessary under soviet form of government to be represented along craft lines. Possibly they will come to us later and say that.

I say it is a serious proposition if we attempt to inaugurate this movement without the great majority in support; it is going to be in the same place as the time the children of Israel wanted to go to the flesh-pots rather than face the music. Unless organized and ground with the belief and know it is essential, absolutely essential reforms, you have a proposition to keep it from going back, when all the powers possible possessed at Ottawa they can bring against you.

A Delegate (unrecognized) — Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask the Chairman of the Resolution Committee has the resolution as passed by the B.C. Federation; does it not include in this referendum vote to be taken, that a card be sent to every member of organized labor and that he be requested to vote on this and those cards not returned considered in the affirmative.

Del. Kavanagh (Vancouver) — Local ballot vote, those not returned to be counted in the affirmative.

Del. Armstrong (Winnipeg) — Mr.

Chairman, I may have misunderstood this proposition which we are supposed to be talking on. Was this question of two-thirds, was that not relative to strike?

By the Chairman — The British Columbia proposition.

Del. Armstrong — These proposed amendments supposed to be; we appear to be talking around everywhere else.

By the Chairman — I might say the resolution is not confined to strike; there is a proposition forming such an organization as this, but the two-thirds — by the two-thirds proposition in relation I take it, to a majority of the vital trades for the formation of this organization.

Del. Armstrong (Winnipeg) — The question is going to form an industrial organization; I understand that this was fully dealt with Thursday; that the question was pretty well settled and the question now the tactics to be followed on the policy, to be followed for that organization in the future?

By the Chairman — No, the question before the house is the vote necessary for the formation of such organization as we have gone on record to be in favor of. There is a motion before the house that the resolution adopted by the British Columbia Federation of Labor which defines what that vote shall be. The amendment is that it be left in the hands of the Central Committee, of course with the Provincial Committees for their guidance; with the guidance of this resolution, along that line. The motion, and I would ask that you confine yourselves to the motion and amendment; that is the question of instructing the Central Committee as to what the necessary vote will be for to decide on this organization.

Del. Armstrong (Winnipeg) — The B.C. Federation is two-thirds vote of the basic or vital trades; that is the motion as passed by the B.C. Federation of Labor.

Del. Kavanagh (Vancouver) — A majority of the vital trades must be necessary to adopt; it doesn't say only vital trades.

A Delegate (unrecognized) — Would we have to get the records of the B.C. Federation to know what motion is going to get before the house?

By the Chairman — The point of order; the Brother recognizes that



this be the policy of this convention, the B.C. only entered as a matter of guidance. It was regarding the action of the B.C. Federation of Labor.

Del. Armstrong (Winnipeg) — I want to get straightened out, I don't think I am the only one that is hazy at that. Where does this two-thirds come in?

Del. Kavanagh (Vancouver) — On the strike vote.

Del. Armstrong (Winnipeg) — Now the vote necessary to form the organization, we will get around some time.

Mr. Chairman, some professor of sociology in England makes the remark—"the intelligent few drag the masses behind," and accordingly he goes on to demonstrate. I think the professor's name is Jenks. But it don't make any difference what you put through here, it is a pretty safe bet the majority attending the various organizations are going to dictate the policy of those organizations. That the great mass only attends organizations to pay dues from time to time practically have no idea; it would be better may be, to say, they had regular ideas. In fact what they don't take from the capitalist press why they take from the majority who attend meetings of the organizations.

Now in our international, particularly the one which I am in, there is a fifty-five per cent vote of the total membership in order to pull off a strike. Now if I were to tell you the amount of trouble we have to try to get the fifty-five per cent vote in order that we could have all that is coming to us, you would rule me out of order because it would take too long. It seems almost impossible to get fifty-five per cent of the organization out to a meeting even with a strike in prospect. That will give you an example if you are going to wait for the total membership of those organizations to vote upon this question. I don't believe anything is going to be accomplished if we wait for that length of time. All we can do is call it a majority of those that will attend regular summoned meetings, or you might make it two-thirds, but certainly you will never get a majority according to my experience of the total membership of the organization.

Immediately some will set up the holler that you haven't the member-

ship of the trade unions of this country supporting the idea—those looking for an idea to raise a holler as stated. I think if you get the members out, if you get busy and examine the labor movement itself. Whence does the labor movement arise. It arises mainly from those producing the material necessities of life. Mind, not all are engaged in slavery, by no means. If you examine history you will find those catering directly to the wants of the ruling class, you will find the source from which the ruling class gets support every time they come in contact with the other portion of society and that it would not be the basic trades the proletariat have got to rise from. Basic trades in industries, generally speaking, are those producing materials necessary for the existence of a system. Hence what do you discover? Possibly that is not general where the proclivity of a nation is the highest point of development. We find that the minority are producing the material necessities of a system; that is a minority, and that is why the parliamentary idea they have been carrying on by many in the political movement have been jumping because they recognize, as I said a minute ago, that those who cater directly to the ruling class their minds by the nature of their occupation belongs to them.

Hence we have got to adopt some other tactics. Now the question comes to this, that those occupied in those vital industries hold the whip in their hand, they hold the situation, ~~they hold society by the~~ throat. Once they become conscious of that fact, and it is upon those men that we have got to rely for the emancipation of the worker, so that if this move that you have instigated here is successful in getting control of those vital industries you have not much more to worry about. If you can gain mastery there, and without going any further into the proposition, I recognize you have no time because a man could talk for two hours and a half upon it.

I am here to support or propose to you that you have a majority. I would suggest may be seventy per cent or seventy-five per cent if necessary, not of the membership of the organi-

zations, but a majority of the intelligence of the organizations and the intelligence of the organization is that portion which is sufficiently interested in their position in life to attend the meetings of their organization. (Loud applause).

Del. Roper (Edmonton) — Mr. Chairman and fellow delegates, I think the convention have used wisdom in allowing this question to be discussed and not closed off. I think those who do attend meetings always, never miss, who the Brother calls the intelligent, are the ones we want to get out and work.

There seems to be no definite time how the referendum will be taken and this question is a big one for discussion. If we fully agree with the sentiment expressed that the vital industries, as explained from the platform, are the ones of the greatest importance, they are the vital but the others are important. I think everyone engaged is important to industry but probably not vital. The fact that you intend by the motion to take a majority vote of all seems to me rather contradictory as to what really will come. The vital, if a majority vote, the vital industries are taken, that is the vital being a big majority to form this union, together in harmony, and the majority is important because unless you get those outside the vital unions coupled with those in the vital union, vital industries then you are in the same position as you were before.

If those outside the vital industries really don't amount to a great deal, probably that is correct, why take the vote or why a majority of the whole? If a majority vote is not necessary to bring about what we desire it seems to me probably something running a vital industry vote majority you can go into this thing. As has been said they control the situation, it seems those outside the vital industries are not important so why jeopardize it by allowing their votes to be counted at all on this proposition? That is the way the matter looks to me.

Del. Russell (Winnipeg)—Mr. Chairman, it seems curious at this time when the convention is on its last legs that we should re-introduce debate or desire in one to get a chance

to oppose industrial organization. The motion as I understand is to determine the percentage of the vote necessary to accomplish this act. The speakers to the motion deviated from that point, getting down and throwing in the monkey wrench, as to whether the expression given here in this convention is the desire of the membership throughout the country. One speaker stated he doubted whether those, speaking of the machinists here, were expressing the sentiments of the membership. I, as representing the machinists' organization, and being at the same convention to which the speaker referred, and that organization has expressed, the transportation machinists employees of the railroad even as late as December, 1918, decided practically unanimously for the new form of industrial organization. (Applause.)

Furthermore, they went to Division 4 Convention, which comprises all railroad shopmen numbering somewhere around 30,000 and propagated that idea. When the vote was taken we found certain conditions existing and there were those propagating the idea of industrial organization; although those opposed to the proposition admitted that closer affiliation was necessary. And those this morning stating they always have been in favor of closer affiliation of labor are adopting the same tactics, saying the time is not opportune for a change of this nature. Using the argument as stated, that it could be brought about without disrupting international organization, but let us get down to the rock bottom method why those tactics were adopted at that time. Let us realize when the railroad workmen were sitting in convention they had no line of communication with the miners, between the transport workers at the coast and other industrial organizations of this country, to know that they were doing the same.

And they realized at that time that those affiliations they had through affiliations of labor and international organization, they realized by eliminating ninety per cent of the affiliation that they could have more efficient management. They realized that and I refute the statement of any delegate to the contrary. They

also realized that the international relations, that so-called international relationship, had got to be obliterated before we could as workers organize industrially and accomplish what we are about.

Don't let me camouflage the thing; let us have the facts. The proposition is clear. Those rising to their feet state a large majority is necessary to accomplish this as if they are serious on the proposition, but realizing from conventions in the past year, I realize it has been an attempt to stifle this form of industrial organization. They are not anxious to determine by a large majority to decide whether you will retain your present form or go into the new form of organization. We realize that the vote of the industrial railroad workers was only lost by a small number, and then furthermore the decision of that convention was never ratified; never put to the membership about voting whether they would accept affiliation with the administration or whether they would go into the question of industrial unionism there as the convention was to meet with representation of the four western provinces; here we have the decided expression of the miners, the workers of the coast and the expression of the workers of the middle west, the trades council of Winnipeg, the central body, all represented and have decided unanimously to form this organization. Then why do they come at this time and tell us it needs a large majority? Why put on the strings in the forming of an organization of this nature? To me the proposition is clear; if the membership want organization then they will have it whether you say two-thirds to have it or not. If the membership are going to fall in line with your proposition and I take it this way, that the railroad workers in their last negotiations last year had it clearly demonstrated to them there is only one ultimate position to take and that is to act industrially.

Let us view the situation, see how it acts. Immediately you go with the ordinary trade union that it is necessary for a craft to strike in order to accomplish your aim, the first question the ordinary trade unionist asks you, although the idea is all

mixed up with craft distinction, is, "Is the boiler-maker coming out?" "Are the carmen coming out, and the pipe-fitter staying on and is the other trade union coming out?" You tell him they are not coming out then he decides he is not coming out. (Applause.)

The workers through the international organization have been attempting to function industrially and still retain craft distinction but the day has come and they know it and these serpents operating today, and I call you serpents because I can't call you any other, endeavoring to say the convention were not unanimous, they attempt to introduce that, but it was unanimous there is no question about that, however, we realize the sentiment; to me at this time it is an attempt to get press publicity to show a reactionary move in this convention and arising out of that press publicity they will be able to go over this country and spread that; a scurrilous attempt to try to convince some that the expression of the convention was not the desired expression, that is their idea. I don't care a two-thirds vote or a seven-eighths, the workers in this country, the rulers of the country realize, from day to day realize, one organization will come, and the conditions which confront them today are more serious because the American Federation of Labor has decided they can do nothing for them. I want to tell you the railroad workers in this country are practically unanimous and the eastern movement is rapidly coming to declare in its favor. The proposition is clear and since we have decided on the formation of the organization I see no necessity to inject argument unless it is for the purpose to get press publicity, for those who will still go around the country expounding their ideas and trying to "bust" the organization. I say the majority of the active workers in this country are in favor of this and I will give you a concrete example of the average intelligence. In the machinists organization on the railroads we recently conducted a vote and on the last ballot around 4,300 voted and 3,600 voted in favor of the proposition. (Applause). And after that if that demonstration isn't conclusive that the membership is behind regular industrial organization, and if we

can get that from them it seems to me to be a certainty.

As I see the proposition we can get the best results by putting the ballot from the bodies which are of the greatest importance industrially taken by our central organization through the other central organizations taking charge of the ballot and those not voting will be counted in the affirmative, and after all that seems fair and the international organizations cannot deny that because they claim that right; all the constitutions of the international organization claim that. (Applause).

Secretary Midgley—Mr. Chairman, I don't intend to repeat the arguments used by Brother Russell and very ably. I merely want to make one or two points. Last night I discovered that two or three of the delegates sitting in this convention had the idea that the One Big Union meant all the workers would try to meet in one hall at the same time. It would be well to make clear that we are not manufacturing a new suit of clothes to fit the labor movement and that this is a matter of educational propaganda and that the workers themselves are the ones to say where they will meet, the time and under what circumstances, as they deem necessary.

I believe some of the delegates are sincere in the proposition raised asking for the large vote. I do realize that if it were not for the active minority in the union I represent I would not be here; if it were not for the active minority at the Quebec Convention this conference would not have been called. That committee met with all kinds of obstacles but believing it was the desire of the membership to obtain an expression in the west we called this conference and in our most optimistic moments we didn't expect more than one hundred delegates. Here we have two hundred and fifty and some odd delegates from the ranks of the workers from all over the western provinces demanding this form of organization, and so, therefore, there must be remembered it was the active minority that organized this conference, and if it had not been for that active minority you would not have been here, and could not have made it possible for your expression as demonstrated in this conference, so all you have to do is to go back to the membership and

give them a fairly clear expression of the discussion and the proposed inception of this organization; of what has been done and there is no question they will adopt it.

Del. Broatch (Calgary)—Mr. Chairman, I am in accord with the sentiment of the motion that this matter go instructing the delegates or for their guidance, but I am not in accord with what it contains. I am not in accord with the idea that the basic trades have the ruling hand over the membership vote. You have not got the idea of the "One Big Union", when you endorse that proposition. To my mind it is directly opposite to the fundamental principles of the "One Big Union" if it stands for anything it stands for equality vote. The "One Big Union" stands for equality vote. Now if we are going to do that let us first inaugurate on the call whether we will join this "One Big Union." Let us get one clear principle in that union, the equality principle, the equality feature of that organization. In all past history of organization of basic industries the smaller lot stands subordinate to the big, in other words the best trade unions are the most selfish propositions that has ever entered the union field, and that is where we are going to look after the little fellow as well as the big fellow. Now the majority of all the membership and the basic trades control that is the minority and I am opposed to any principle such as that on the very start. I want the vote a majority vote of the membership as a whole with that vote with the basic trades taken out. There will be no basic trades in the next organization, there will be no such thing as basic trades, so why start the principle of basic trades? Whether we form this organization or not the basic trade idea will die and we will become representatives of the workers as to what form of civil life they mean to occupy and I would like to make an amendment to the motion.

Del. Brodier, seconded.

Del. Moulten (Victoria)—Can you tell me where the hell we have drifted to?

By the Chairman—Order.

Del. Broatch (Calgary)—The Brother wants to know where the hell I am drifting to—

By the Chairman—The Brother did

not make any such statement, he was referring to the meeting.

Del. Gill (Kimberley)—I think you should notify Delegate Broatch he already has had five minutes and at least he should sit down.

Del. Broatch—I am willing for the chair to do so if he calls five minutes on the other speakers.

By the Chairman—One or two exceeded the time limit a minute or two, but it was the first time they had addressed this convention.

A Delegate (unrecognized) — A point of order, Mr. Chairman, what is the motion and amendment, and the amendment to the amendment?

By the Chairman—There is the motion, amendment and amendment to the amendment before the house, and the brother over here asked where we were drifting to. The position is this, we have decided practically unanimously in favoring industrial unionism organization, and elected a Policy Committee to carry that out, circulate propaganda, we also have the provincial committees as stated and a motion was made that we instruct that Central Committee that is to put into effect the referendum of this organization that it would require a majority of the membership, and in case of a strike a two-thirds majority.

The amendment was made that we not so instruct but suggest to this committee for guidance, and the matter be left in their hands, I take it.

The amendment to the amendment; if you want to deal definitely, the amendment to the amendment instructs the words "vital industries" be deleted; that is a majority of the votes cast.

Del. Miller (Winnipeg)—You stated in your remarks on the industrial organization the vote was practically unanimous. I wish you to retract that statement from the minutes, as stated from the chair the motion was practically unanimous when the motion was unanimous. That would enable those to leave here and propagate the idea we were not unanimous and to say it was even so stated by the chair.

By the Chairman—The vote was unanimous.

Del. Armstrong (Winnipeg)—You said majority, majority means everybody belonging to that union. If we

made it majority of our membership—

By the Chairman—The motion as it reads is majority vote.

Del. Armstrong—I am satisfied.

Del. Wells (Vancouver)—It seems quite a lot of discussions have come up this morning which might more properly have come up when the original motion was considered. At the present time the anxiety seems to be what the majority shall be. Why all this? I have taken considerable part in the labor movement in different provinces for a long time and I have never seen the same anxiety as the majority expressed here this morning. The majority of the workers from sixty to a hundred thousand represented here today are representatives of the basic trades. The great majority of the men in this convention are connected with trades which have been doing what? Forming industrial organization if you will. Take the ship-building industry, they have been coming closer, on the forming of metal trades councils, district councils, for why? Because they recognize in the past apparently, whatever the dispute it has been impossible to strike, because there were boiler-makers, machinists, and so on in the ship-building industry.

Now, Mr. Chairman, if that is a fact, the idea of industrial unionism is not the thought of Pritchard; it has not come from his mind and due to him alone but evidently operating in the minds of the men operating in the basic trades. If you got a majority of the votes cast, and the ballot, I take it, will be determined by the Central Committee, and haven't you sufficient confidence in your central committee that they will themselves desire to take a vote which would be successful? If you haven't why elect those men? I take it, the Central Committee and the provincial committees will take the vote irrespective of provinces and work in the different provinces, and with the idea of making the organization a success, therefore why all the clamor?

Del. Lawson (Ferne, District Ledger) — Mr. Chairman, one of the delegates referred to the press and I happen to be sitting right close in connection with them here. He said it was with a desire to give publicity here but the press of Calgary also send the news all over Canada and

they have been remarkably fair to organized labor.

Voices—Hear, hear.

Del. Lawson—I might say the miners, whom I am with, met two weeks ago in Calgary and it was refreshing to see that they passed a vote of thanks for the fair manner in which the press reported that meeting and sent news with regard to the movement and there is no more radical bunch on the continent than District 18, U.M.W.A. (Laughter). Every local in that district, I believe, and I am able to be in touch with them, and the district office, and they are with you to a man. What I want to say on behalf of the press is it has been stated you were unanimous in connection with this thing and from the discussion this morning it is very evident that you are not unanimous. We possibly believed we were unanimous but it has been intimated there was the section seeking the press, seeking publicity, to show you were not unanimous, now why don't you settle the thing by getting the roll-call vote and find out where you are, whether one, two, three, or whatever it is put them on record. (Loud applause.)

In speaking to the motion you can handle it, I am sure you can handle it all right, without any trouble or delay and that you will get together all right and be united but get the roll call and find out exactly what you are up against. (Applause).

By the Chairman—I take it it is not necessary to have any roll call for the reason we had a unanimous decision. Nobody got up and opposed that proposition, while he may have made statements that may have been construed as something that might kill industrial unionism, nobody made any direct statements.

Del. Johns (Winnipeg)—Mr. Chairman, it is clear to me there is an attempt to create some dissension. I would not have got on my feet on this question only relative to the grand lodge officers not desiring to bring this form of organization into the eastern end. I wish to say unless Delegate Sommerville—

By the Chairman—Delegate Sommerville was adequately replied to by Delegate Russell and I must insist you confine your remarks to the vote necessary to put this into effect;

confine your remarks to the question before the house.

Del. Johns—I was coming to the vote. But taking our experience in Winnipeg in the past we have at all times taken into consideration the votes cast. I have seen where the vote was four hundred in one organization for the right to pull them out on strike we would get eighty votes and may be sixty of that in favor and able to take the four hundred out. I am in favor of the policy if the men are not sufficiently interested to cast the vote, I contend they are indifferent and will follow the majority.

The Grand Lodge has said to the membership they were desirous of seeing industrial unionism but when in Winnipeg the workers were anxious to get together to come to an understanding and according to their understanding the craft organizations would get together in one hall to cast the vote, what did you find? The Grand Lodge interfered and said these crafts must meet in separate lodges to take the vote, and I take it that gives the negative to the expression that the Grand Lodge was anxious to form this organization. I contend we must work, that the convention is determined to get the vote, and the vote we must be determined is the majority anxious to precipitate and make an organization for the good of the working class in this country. It doesn't matter to me where they take the vote or if there is other opposition or not.

Del. Moulten (Victoria)—I move the previous question (seconded)?

By the Chairman—The amendment to the amendments instructing the Central Committee as to the necessary vote and the secretary will read for your information.

Secretary Midgley—The motion adopted the following method for the determination of the vote that is required.

(Read B. C. Federation of Labor resolution.)

By the Chairman—The amendment is this matter of taking the vote be taken into consideration by the Central Committee.

The amendment to the amendment that this matter of taking the vote be taken into consideration by the Central Committee but the clause relating to vital trades be deleted.

Del. Broatch (Calgary)—And a majority of all those voting.

By the Chairman—The same but definitely instructing the Central Committee as the Secretary has read.

Del. Taylor—A point of information; votes of the organization or votes cast?

Secretary Midgley—As amended the motion is the organizations, otherwise you will have to make other provisions.

Del. Broatch—I mean organizations, the great majority of all votes cast.

By the Chairman—Amendment to amendment (show of hands.) In favor 55, contrary 101. Declared lost.

Cottrell amendment, referring to the Central Committee for their consideration.

Del. Hubble—Seeing we have disposed of the amendment to the amendment, I suggest that the motion and amendment now be read and we would be more clear.

By the Chairman—There is not any difference only one definitely instructs the committee how to act, the other leaves it in their hands to use discretion, something might arise in the meantime, however, we will read the motion.

Secretary Midgley—Reads motion.

Del. Hubble—Practically the amendment is in line with the motion.

By the Chairman—The motion lays down a hard and fast rule, the other leaves it optional for the committee to be guided.

Del. Cottrell—If it doesn't fit another province, they will get to know that.

Cottrell amendment, on being put to a vote, was declared carried.

By the Chairman—The matter is left in the hands of the Central Committee and they keep that in view for their guidance.

Del. Trotter (Vancouver)—In order to avoid any confusion that might exist or any attempt to show illegality, I propose the motion as amended be put to the house.

Motion as amended, on being put to a vote, was carried.

Del. Taylor—A point I would like to ask the chair, whether we could finish the work without having another session?

By the Chair—A point of order; I believe we can by extending the time.

Del. Knight (Edmonton)—I move extension of time until the work of the convention is concluded.

Del. Pattison (Fort William), seconded.

A delegate (unrecognized) — A point of order; much valuable information is going to come and to make the delegates clear it might take an hour and it might take ten minutes, there is nothing final as to the extension or not?

By the Chairman—As far as the chair is aware the only matter is the report of the Ways and Means Committee.

Del. Lawson (Ferne)—There was a telegram sent to Ottawa yesterday, Mr. Chairman, in which it was stated the convention was remaining in session awaiting reply from Ottawa. On behalf of the press I would like to know if you have had any answer to that telegram.

By the Chairman—The wire stated the convention was still in session. I take it we were not to remain indefinitely in session for that answer.

The motion to extend time, I believe we will conclude within the hour.

Motion to extend time was carried.

Secretary Midgley—The question has been asked how much money was raised by the collection taken yesterday. The amount of \$481 has been received. Someone asked the question at the time the amount was \$477 why the odd money, you couldn't divide it by two. One Brother, Delegate Seal, has contributed \$3 in addition to his donation of \$2.

Del. Hubble—I would like to ask the Secretary if every delegate has paid?

Secretary Midgley—If you let me get through I would have told you.

By the Chairman—The first regular order of business, I would ask you to maintain order while Secretary Midgley presents his statement.

Secretary Midgley — \$481 total amount I have received. Details accordingly to list of credentials that were turned in by Credential Committee. Those who have not contributed; I wish to read the list but I want to say in reading if the delegates were not present, some I know left before the collection was taken and some may not have been checked off, but I am simply reading the full list of names I had, submitted by the

Credential Committee, from whom I have not received the \$2.

List read and completed.

#### Supplementary Report Ways and Means Committee

Del. Miller (chairman of committee)—Further recommendations, Mr. Chairman. The committee recommend that the secretary be paid for services prior to and during the conference, the sum of \$75 and the assistant secretary \$25. I move the adoption.

Del. Flewin (Victoria), seconded.

Del. Kavanagh—I move that you make it \$25 each.

Del. Hubble—It should be at least \$35 and \$25.

Del. Kavanagh—I don't see any need for \$75.

Secretary Midgley—The sum is unnecessary, that which I have done to get the conference together, namely that I sent out, I was largely able to do from my position as the business agent of the Vancouver Trades and Labor Council. I appreciate the committee's generosity but it is unnecessary to have an appropriation for the work prior to the conference.

Assistant Secretary Lofting—There has been some little work, but nothing in comparison to what the secretary has had and the sum is out of reason.

Del. Seal.—Mr. Chairman, I think the best way out of the matter is to support the motion as on the report of the Ways and Means Committee and leave it to the Brothers; if they think the remuneration is beyond their work they can turn that money into the fund.

Del. Kavanagh—I am not in favor of that in view of the fact I don't agree that the amount of money be left to themselves because it would show in the vote that much. As Lofting says he didn't earn as much as Midgley I think we will cut him to \$15. I don't believe in giving a worker any more than he wants therefore in line with Bro. Lofting's proposition, I move that the recommendation be amended to read \$35 and \$15.

Assistant Secretary Lofting, seconded. Carried.

Del. Miller (Chairman of Ways and Means Committee)—I will now give a detailed statement in regard to income and expenditure.

The income amounts to \$481.

The expenditure—Hall rent \$75, printing of circulars \$19.75, estimated stenographic report \$200, janitor \$20, typewriting \$3.50, ballot paper 25c, wire to Ottawa \$7.30, secretary \$35, assistant secretary \$15, total \$375.80. Taking that there will be a balance of \$105.20 to be turned over to the Central Committee. I move the adoption.

Del. Pattison (Fort William), seconded.

Del. Smitten—Did I hear a record of the rent of the hall \$35?

Del. Miller—\$75.

Motion, adoption of recommendation of committee as amended, on being put to a vote, was declared carried.

Del. Flewin (Victoria)—Mr. Chairman, on behalf of the delegates from British Columbia, I wish to thank the delegates from the City of Calgary for the treatment accorded the visiting delegates.

Del. Moulten (Victoria), seconded.

By the Chairman—The motion thanking the Trade Unionists of Calgary for their treatment while in Calgary, carried.

Del. Armstrong (Winnipeg)—Also on behalf of the delegates from Manitoba.

A Delegate (unrecognized)—On behalf of the delegates from Saskatchewan, we wish to thank the Alberta Federation of Labor for the treatment we have received.

Delegates (unrecognized)—Moved and seconded to tender a vote of thanks to the Press of Calgary.

Del. Kavanagh—Why should we thank anyone for telling the truth? I don't believe in any camouflage. I don't think if they told the truth as they should, and opposed to telling lies as they do in the majority of cases, that we have anything to be thankful for.

Del. Lawson—Speaking as a pressman, the press they don't care about the thanks. You delegates want to get it out of your heads that the press is against you; the every day press-boy is out to do his work and to come and report, and all he wants you to do is to give him a square deal. They don't care about thanks; I don't think they want a vote of thanks.

By the Chairman—The motion, it was a motion of appreciation for the manner in which they have reported the proceedings, carried.



Del. Moulten (Victoria)—A point of information. Before dissolving, what arrangement is made for calling the next convention.

By the Chairman—That is in the hands of the Central Committee.

A Delegate (unrecognized) — I would like to move a hearty vote of thanks be tendered President Tallon for the impartial and efficient manner in which he has conducted the proceedings of the convention.

Seconded. Loud applause.

By the Chairman—I take it the

applause is attributed to yourselves. I don't particularly want to refer to your egotism, but it was entirely due to the individual delegates as to the efficient manner in which I was able to conduct the convention. As chairman I want to express my appreciation and without going into any remarks with regard to future activities, I think that it is in capable hands with the Central Committee and I know they expect the co-operation of each and every one alike.

I now declare the convention adjourned.

(The End)





## LIST OF O.B.U. Publications

---

<i>Engineering: A treatise on Workers' Control and Management of Industry</i>	25c
<i>Short Talks on Evolution: A series of lectures by Joseph McCabe</i>	25c
<i>Woman and War</i>	10c
<i>History of American Trade Unionism</i>	5c
<i>Evolution and Revolution: A lecture by Bishop Wm. Montgomery Brown</i>	5c
<i>Is Darwinism Dead? An analysis by Joseph McCabe</i>	5c

(Reduced prices on quantities)

---

## Other Publications

<i>What Means This Strike?</i>	10c
<i>The Burning Question of Trade Unionism</i>	10c
<i>Socialism Made Easy</i>	15c
<i>Shop Talks on Economics</i>	10c
<i>What is Capital?</i>	10c
<i>Industrial Socialism</i>	10c

On sale at the

## O.B.U. Bulletin Office

54 ADELAIDE STREET  
WINNIPEG

*See list in the "O.B.U. Bulletin" for other books*

Published by the One Big Union



Printed by The Wallingford Press, Ltd., Winnipeg, Man.  
(A Union Shop)